

Middle East arms control workshop opens

CAIRO (AP) — A Middle East arms control workshop, stemming from the Arab-Israeli peace talks, opened Sunday with an Egyptian call that Israel not be exempted from any weapon eliminations in the region. Twenty-nine countries are participating in the three-day workshop, including Egypt, Israel and the United States. Nabil Fahmy, head of the Egyptian delegation to the workshop, stressed the importance of confidence-building measures to be taken to help the Arab-Israeli peace process. "When the elimination of weapons of mass destruction are addressed, it must be done with equality and without exception to any weapon system or regional state," Mr. Fahmy said, referring to Israel. The Jewish state denies Egyptian and Arab accusations that it has nuclear war heads, and refuses any inspection of its arms facilities. "Taking steps and agreeing on measures that build the confidence of all the parties, in fields where there is concern, suspicion and disconcerting ambiguity, will unquestionably enhance security and stability in the region," Mr. Fahmy added. The Cairo meeting is part of the activities of the multilateral arms control talks which were last held in May in Washington.

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Regent visits army unit

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Sunday paid a field visit to a unit of the Fifth Royal Armoured Division where he was briefed on duties assigned to it. Prince Hassan attended a military exercise by the unit formation and then inspected units which participated in the drill. Prince Hassan was accompanied on the visit by the chief of staff of the land forces and senior officers.

Abbas arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — Mahmoud Abbas, member of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), arrived in Amman Sunday to participate in meetings of the Jordanian-Palestinian political Committee due to start Monday (see page 3).

Saudis complain of Iraqi firing on border

RIYADH (AP) — Iraqi troops opened fire with handguns and automatic rifles across Saudi Arabia's border twice this month, prompting a complaint to the United Nations, the Saudi Foreign Ministry said Sunday. The incident July 1 and July 4 were the first reported since the 1991 Gulf war, in which Saudi Arabia joined the U.S.-led coalition to end Iraq's seven-month occupation of Kuwait. The Foreign Ministry said in a statement that it considered the firing "acts of provocation" and had lodged a complaint with the U.N. Security Council.

Sudan gets new central bank chief

KHARTOUM (AFP) — Sudanese head of state Omar Hassan Al Bashir has appointed Saeed Mohammad Hassan as governor of the Bank of Sudan, the Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported Sunday. The decree, as published by the state-owned agency, made no mention of the former governor of the central bank, Al Sheikh Sidahmad. However, this change of governors was not seen as an indication of a shift from the government's economic liberalisation policy which has freed the prices of all commodities to be fixed according to the principle of supply and demand.

Powell in Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — U.S. armed forces chief of staff General Colin Powell arrived in Kuwait Sunday for his first visit to the country he helped liberate from Iraqi occupation in the 1991 Gulf war. He said in a brief statement to reporters he would bring greetings from President Bill Clinton and reassurances of U.S. commitment to Kuwaiti security during a meeting with the Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

Pakistan welcomes nuclear ban

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — Pakistan Sunday welcomed Washington's recent decision to extend its moratorium on nuclear testing until September 1994. An official statement here said a permanent ban on nuclear testing by all states was an "essential element in a programme for complete and nuclear disarmament," and would strengthen the goal of nuclear non-proliferation. Pakistan hoped multilateral negotiations would soon be initiated to conclude a comprehensive test-ban treaty, it said. Islamabad had in 1978 proposed to its rival neighbour India that the two sign a regional or a bilateral nuclear test ban treaty, the statement added.

Death toll rises in Congo clashes

BRAZZAVILLE (R) — Ten people have been killed and about 20 wounded in five days of clashes between the army and opposition in Congo's capital Brazzaville, medical sources said Sunday. They said nine of the dead were civilians. The social services minister appealed Sunday for aid for 300 people forced to abandon their homes in the opposition strongholds of Bacongo and Makelekele, where the clashes were fiercest. The prime minister, General Joachim Yhombi-Opango, ordered a dusk-to-dawn curfew Wednesday.

Iraq in fresh clash with U.N.

Inspectors leave saying Baghdad blocked sealing of missile sites

Combined agency despatches

IRAQI APPEARS headed for a confrontation with the Security Council for refusing on Sunday to allow either cameras or seals at two missile bases the United Nations wants to monitor.

At the same time diplomats reported that talks at U.N. headquarters on resuming limited oil sales were deadlocked, with U.N. officials contemplating breaking them off if no progress is made when they continue this week (see page 2).

A spokesman for Sir David Hannay of Britain, this month's Security Council president, said the conflict would be discussed at closed-door council consultations Monday.

He said that Rolf Ekeus, head of the U.N. Special Commission in charge of scrapping Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, was expected to brief the council.

Mr. Ekeus could not be reached for comment Sunday but he told reporters earlier the confrontation was serious as Baghdad was challenging the Security Council's demand for long-term monitoring of its arms potential.

A three-man weapons inspection team, headed by American Mark Silver, arrived in Baghdad Saturday, confident that Iraq would allow it to put seals on two missile-testing stations close to Baghdad, thereby disabling them.

But on Sunday, the three left abruptly for Bahrain with Mr. Silver telling reporters, "I was not allowed to do what I went in for and that is why I came out immediately."

President Bill Clinton, while travelling in South Korea, warned that any further Iraqi defiance could lead to a new United States attack.

The abrupt departure of the U.N. team provoked fears of punitive attacks on the sites or on Baghdad targets.

U.S. Vice-President Gore said, Iraqi President "Saddam (Hussein) should understand very clearly that he cannot trifle with the world community."

Speaking on the NBC's "Meet

the Press" programme, Mr. Gore said the United Nations could now demand Iraq destroy the facilities. If it doesn't, the world body itself could authorise using force "against those facilities."

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher has warned that the Western allies could resort to force if Iraq fails to comply.

Fears grew in Baghdad, where money changers and gold dealers closed their doors. Many Iraqis went home early and most stores were emptied of vegetable, fruit and meat in hours, as residents stocked up.

Hotels advised residents to go to basement bomb shelters if air raid sirens sound.

Iraq asked the Security Council to prevent any punitive raid. "Iraq calls on the Security Council to shoulder its responsibilities in accordance with the United Nations charter and prevent the launching of a new military aggression against it," an Iraqi communiqué said.

The Iraqi News Agency said Foreign Minister Mohammad Said Al Sahaf sent a letter to the head of the Security Council accusing parties hostile to Iraq of getting the inspection team to make excuses and create an atmosphere for new attack.

He said it was an attempt to confuse Iraq's position and keep the Security Council from agreeing to lift the siege. INA said.

"Yam Al Azim site is a site to test missiles under 150 kilometres and it is allowed according to Resolution 687," the letter said, INA reported.

The use of seals by the special commission or the International Atomic Energy Agency is allowed only to deal with activities banned under Resolution 687, he was quoted as saying.

Washington in late June fired cruise missiles at Baghdad's intelligence centre in retaliation for Iraq's alleged involvement in a plot to kill former President George Bush while he was visiting Kuwait in April.

The dispute began when the inspectors attempted to install



The head of the U.N. inspection team, Mark Silver (wearing dark glasses), leaves Baghdad Sunday after saying the Iraqi authorities prevented his mission (AFP photo)

cameras to monitor the two bases in an effort to ensure Iraq does not test medium and long range missiles, banned under terms of Security Council ceasefire resolutions after the 1991 Gulf war. Short-range missiles are permitted.

Iraq did not turn down the cameras but said it wanted a review first on compliance to date in destroying the weapons.

Consequently, Mr. Ekeus said a meeting could take place, possibly on Thursday, if the seals were installed as an "interim" measure.

Diplomats said the next step would be for Mr. Ekeus to ask for council support to destroy all the equipment on the sites if it could not be monitored. He said the basic conflict was Iraq's refusal to accept long-term U.N. monitoring on grounds it violated its sovereignty.

The general in charge of Iraq's relations with U.N. inspection teams said Sunday Baghdad will defy the U.N. order to shut down its missile testing equipment and take all necessary measures to defend itself if attacked.

"We cannot accept (U.N.) seals of activities which are not prohibited," General Amer Rasheed, chairman of Iraq's Industrialisation Commission, told Reuters.

Gen. Rasheed, who also heads Iraq's weapons development

programme, said there was no way Baghdad could allow the U.N. to disable its industry.

"(Sealing) will be a dangerous precedent," he said. "It means if we allow them this time, they may extend it to the whole of Iraqi industry."

"Tomorrow they will come and seal any factory," he said.

Gen. Rasheed said Iraq did not fear threats of the use of force and was ready to defend itself and its installations.

"We as a nation, we take all necessary measures to protect our people, our land and facilities," he said.

Gen. Rasheed said Iraq had proposed to Mr. Silver's team that missile equipment could be transferred and assembled anywhere in Iraq and be left under U.N. supervision. "(U.N.) seals are already applied on prohibited equipment in Iraq," he said.

The government daily Babel, run by President Saddam's son Uday Hussein, struck another defiant note Sunday vowing that Baghdad "never bowed to blackmail and will never do so."

Oil talks

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali convinced Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz in Geneva last month to resume the oil sale negotiations. U.N. officials thought Dr. Ghali might

personally intervene to prevent the most recent talks from collapsing.

Diplomats said the negotiations, conducted by U.N. Under-Secretary-General Carl-August Fleischhauer, had concentrated on a U.N. paper prepared in Vienna last year, which Iraq came close to accepting.

"They have been through the paper from beginning to end and there are a number of areas where there are serious divergences," one envoy said. "If instructions they get out of Baghdad are not dramatically improved, there would be no point in going on."

The 1992 U.N. proposals were presented to the Security Council after Iraq broke off the talks. But diplomats said its most headline members on this issue, the United States and Britain, thought the monitoring of food distribution was too liberal in those proposals.

It was not immediately clear whether Mr. Fleischhauer had toughened the surveillance provisions or whether Iraq had other objections to the scheme.

Another key dispute is over the use of terminals. The allies insist Iraq ship almost all of its oil through its pipeline to Turkey as a reward to Ankara for its aid during the Gulf war. They also say the pipeline can be more easily monitored.

Ross visits Damascus as Israel threatens retaliation for attacks

Combined agency despatches

DAMASCUS — U.S. envoy Dennis Ross held talks here Sunday with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa as Israel blamed Syria for supporting attacks against its troops in Lebanon and reinforced its forces on the Lebanon border.

The Israeli cabinet met Sunday to review options in Lebanon amid increasing warnings of major military operations following the killings of five Israeli soldiers in Lebanon since Thursday.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has urged the United States to press Syria, which has thousands of troops in Lebanon, to halt the anti-Israeli attacks which also left eight Israeli soldiers wounded.

Uri Lubrani, Israel's coordinator for Israeli activities in Lebanon, said, "Israel is pulling the string of terrorism in Lebanon. Those who provoke escalation must understand that they will pay a price."

Mr. Rabin has charged that the Iranian-backed Hizbollah and the Syrian-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, who were responsible for the killings of Israeli troops, were using Iranian arms which transit via Damascus.

A unofficial Syrian source blamed the escalation in Lebanon on Israel's occupation of an 1,000-square-kilometre buffer zone along the Lebanese-Israeli border since 1985.

Israel is responsible for the tension because of its refusal to withdraw from the zone in line with U.N. resolutions, senior Syrian officials said. The attacks will stop when Israel pulls out, they added.

The Syrian ruling party daily Al Baath and state-run radio also insisted that Israel must withdraw its forces from Lebanon.

Mr. Ross, the State Depart-

ment coordinator for the Middle East, meanwhile described as "good" his talks with Mr. Sharaa and said he was looking forward to further discussions aimed at breaking the deadlock in Arab-Israeli peace talks.

He is due to meet Syrian President Hafez Al Assad before leaving Monday for Amman for talks with Jordanian officials.

Mr. Ross began Thursday a regional tour aimed at narrowing differences in the peace talks, which bogged down over differences between Israel and the Palestinians on self-rule for the occupied territories.

Mr. Ross met in occupied Jerusalem with Rabin and Palestinian negotiators and on Saturday had five hours of talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa which covered new American ideas to bridge the gap between Israel and the Arabs.

Mr. Ross said in Damascus his talks with Israeli and Egyptian leaders had been "intensive and this effort will continue."

"We have been involved with an effort to find way to fill in gaps between the parties," he said before meeting Mr. Sharaa.

Arab diplomats said his talks in Damascus would cover Syrian demands for an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights which in 1981, Israel was offered to give up parts of the plateau in exchange for full peace with Damascus.

Israeli Yitzhak Rabin's ministers said the peace talks would not prevent Israeli retaliation for the attacks against its troops in South Lebanon.

Health Minister Haim Ramon said after hours of discussion in a cabinet meeting that Mr. Rabin would present specific military options to the cabinet "very soon."

Lebanese security sources said Israel sent eight more big guns

into its South Lebanon "security zone" Sunday, bringing to 19 the number of artillery pieces moved to the area in 24 hours. Guerrillas were bracing for an attack, they said.

"This is a new situation, an ongoing war," said Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, an ex-general close to Mr. Rabin. "Whoever thinks we will continue to absorb (attacks) quietly and say 'thank you very much' is making a mistake."

Uri Lubrani, Israel's chief negotiator with Lebanon at the peace talks, accused Syria of planning the rise in guerrilla attacks and said Israel would respond.

Late on Saturday Mr. Rabin, who is also defence minister, told Mr. Ross to warn Damascus to restrain the Lebanese guerrillas by blocking weapons transfers from Iran.

"The message to Syria was absolutely clear," said Interior Minister Arye Deri.

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, speaking after the cabinet discussed the attacks, called the Lebanon-based guerrilla groups "the number one enemy" of peace talks.

"This is exactly the reason why if Israel finds it necessary to act against them — and very seriously so — there will be no problem in regard to the peace talks," Mr. Sarid said.

Israel's northern commander General Yitzhak Mordechai also blamed Syria and Lebanon.

"We are facing a very difficult, very complex situation and I have made a certain number of proposals to deal with it," he said.

However, Mr. Rabin, Mr. Lubrani and other senior officials have ruled out another invasion of Lebanon and prefer to talk of limited punitive strikes. The Israeli-Lebanese border was reported quiet although tense Sunday.

Palestinians ready to deal if Washington changes its paper

By Wafa Amr
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials said Sunday that the Palestinians were prepared to deal with the U.S. document on interim self-government changes recognising Jerusalem and the occupied territories as lands seized by Israel in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

The officials said that the PLO had asked Egypt to convey its new position to U.S. Middle East peace coordinator Dennis Ross during his visit to Cairo Saturday.

American and Arab pressures on the PLO to accept the U.S. document as a basis for Palestinian-Israeli negotiations compelled Palestinians to deal more flexibly with the U.S. paper. But they remain unwilling to budge on the two key issues — jurisdiction and Jerusalem.

"We will consider the American document only if the U.S. introduced changes on Jerusalem and jurisdiction," said one PLO official.

He said: "The only changes we will accept would be an American document that recognises the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including Jerusalem as occupied territories and not disputed lands as stated in the U.S. document."

"This means that these territories would be considered one territorial unit," he said.

His statements reflected a departure from previous Palestinian positions.

Palestinians have rejected the U.S. document as a basis for future negotiations mainly because it excludes East Jerusalem from the Palestinian interim self-government authority.

According to Palestinians, the

document also fragments the occupied territories and gives both Israelis and Palestinians the same right to claim sovereignty over the occupied territories in the future.

Although pressed by the U.S. to submit amendments to the U.S. document and deal with it as a basis to reach an agreement with Israel over interim self-government, Palestinians adhered to their stand that it cannot be a basis.

However, the changes demanded by the PLO would annul the U.S. document, which they said would enforce new terms of reference to the 20-month-old Middle East peace process.

The original terms of reference, stated in the letters of invitations and letters of assurances the U.S. presented to all parties involved in the peace process, recognise the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and that East Jerusalem is part of these territories.

"If the U.S. introduces changes on Jerusalem and jurisdiction or if it submits another paper consistent with the original terms of reference and the letter of assurances, we will consider our position," the official said.

Egyptian-PLO talks

In Cairo Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa met a PLO team Sunday to discuss the U.S. paper on Palestinian self-government.

A Palestinian source said the Egyptians, after consulting the Palestinians, had proposed to Mr. Ross Saturday that the U.S. draft define clearly that the self-government would cover the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem.

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ROYAL JORDANIAN

YOUR WINDOW ON THE WORLD.

King opens world wheelchair games

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday opened "Challenge 93," the first international ex-service wheelchair games at the invitation of the Royal British Legion.

The King, who was accompanied by Her Majesty Queen Noor, was received upon arrival at the games' site by Queen Elizabeth's Lord Lieutenant for Buckinghamshire, local dignitaries, the president and officers of the Royal British Legion and Challenge 93 organising committee.

The national flags were raised to the Jordanian and British national anthems, followed by the parade of Royal British Legion Standards and a parade of athletes led by a Gurkha band and followed by the legion band.

After the games flag was brought into the stadium, the Royal British Legion president, Vice Admiral Sir Geoffrey Dalton, gave a speech in which he welcomed the King and Queen

and expressed his sincere thanks to the King for having accepted the invitation to open the games.

Adm. Dalton referred to the ex-servicemen as "some of the fittest men and women in their countries. Now they are using sport to rebuild their lives."

In the address in which he declared the games open, the King thanked the Royal British Legion for its organisation of the games and expressed his "confidence in the ex-servicemen who shared with all those present the hope of upholding the lofty ideals and principles of peace based on justice, honour, security, stability and a brighter future for mankind."

Thirty-six countries are participating in the games including Arab and Muslim delegations from Syria and Egypt.

The opening ceremony was also attended by Jordanian Ambassador to London Fouad Ayoub and Military Attache Brigadier Awad Maaitah.

Majali urges officials to set an example in honesty

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Sunday urged government officials and administrative leaders to carry out their duty with honesty and to avoid using their posts for personal gains.

In an address delivered at the opening session of a three-day seminar on financial and administrative control, Dr. Majali urged participants in the seminar, who occupy leading government posts, to treat citizens equally and to give others an example to follow in their professional performance "so as to present Jordan as a good example for the Arab world in terms of performance, work and public service as we presented to it a 'model in democracy'."

Dr. Majali dealt his address with the challenges facing Jordan and stressed the need to counter them. He affirmed the keenness of the government to give due attention to inspection and control institutions to enable them to achieve their goals.

He also underlined the need to implement the Royal directives on administrative development and emphasised that the government would work hard on fighting corruption wherever it exists.

Jordan, Dr. Majali said, has witnessed in the past few years two important events which had their clear impact on the country and the life of its citizens.

"The first was the economic challenge which faced Jordan as a result of its stands of pride and dignity ... and the second was the institutional democratisation process adopted by the leader of our march (His Majesty King Hussein), may God protect him," he said.

So as to enable itself to face these two challenges and others the government departments have to achieve their goals efficiently, "which requires from all of us to pool our efforts and constructively cooperate to correct our paths to make them fit the 'general policies'," he said.

He said Jordan, as any other developing country, views administrative development as a means to development and a way in carrying out comprehensive plans.

Speaking also at the opening of the seminar was Zuhair Al Kayed, director general of the Institute of Public Management which is organising the seminar.

He reviewed the activities of the national development plan and steps taken to improve administrative efficiency.

The seminar will tackle a variety of topics concerning management of government offices and the work of the Audit Bureau. Several working papers will be reviewed at the seminar, which is

(Continued on page 10)

Palestinian boy dies of wounds in West Bank

JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A 16-year-old Palestinian died Sunday five days after he was shot during a clash between Israeli soldiers and Palestinian protesters in the occupied West Bank, military sources said.

Mohammad Ashraf Samamra, of Dahariya, was shot on July 6 after soldiers confronted a group of six masked Palestinians in Dahariya, near Hebron in the West Bank.

Soldiers fired and wounded three of them after they ignored orders to stop, the army said. Samamra was shot in the head.

In other violence, the body of a

70-year-old Palestinian suspected of collaborating with Israeli forces was found hanging from an electricity pole in Hatatama, near Bethlehem in the West Bank. Mohammad Gazalah Salahat had been repeatedly stabbed.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, Israeli troops shot and wounded five Palestinians, including three children, Saturday when they opened fire on stonethrowers in a Gaza refugee camp, Palestinian sources said.

Children aged 12 and 13 were wounded in the Shatti refugee camp.

U.N. fears tit-for-tat attacks in Mogadishu

Combined agency despatches

MOGADISHU — United Nations officials are viewing increasingly bold attacks by Somali gunmen in Mogadishu as the start of a hit-and-run guerrilla campaign against the multinational force in Somalia.

In the past 12 days gunmen assumed to be loyal to warlord Mohammad Farah Aided have killed five U.N. peacekeepers and hit the cornerstones of the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) — the port, airport and headquarters.

Aided has started a guerrilla war using hit and run tactics against UNOSOM forces. Harassment attacks against key UNOSOM facilities will continue, Enemy morale is high," says a confidential U.N. briefing paper obtained by Reuters.

"Enemy forces are moving freely within the city. Ambush attacks using small groups of 10-20 armed militia against isolated UNOSOM forces may occur," said the document, prepared by General Cevik Bir, commander of the 20,000-strong force.

"The general population of Mogadishu is slowly losing confidence in the ability of UNOSOM forces to protect them," said the confidential U.N. document.

Publicly UNOSOM has 14,000 soldiers in Mogadishu, not 20,000.

"It is part of the continuing

(Continued on page 10)

Majali meets Mayo Clinic team, visits PSD

AMMAN (Petra) — A medical team from the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, USA, led by Dr. L. W. Smith Sunday suggested that Jordanian medical centres and the Mayo Clinic be linked through satellite for exchanges of views about medical matters.

Dr. Smith, who was speaking at a meeting with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali said that exchanges could also cover such issues as diagnosing illnesses and scientific research work.

The team met the prime minister following a tour of a number of medical centres and institutions including the Al Hussein Medical Centre.

The prime minister supported Dr. Smith's proposal, saying that Jordan takes pride in its advanced private and public sectors' medical services.

Meanwhile, Dr. Majali Sunday visited the Department of Environment at the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and was briefed by its Secretary General Asem Ghosheh on its activities. Mr. Ghosheh also outlined a number of the department's internal organisational structure.



Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali

The prime minister also called at the Public Security Department (PSD) and met with Interior Minister Salameh Hamad and PSD Director Major General Abdul Rahman Al Udwan and his assistants.

In a brief address to senior PSD officers, the prime minister underlined the importance of safeguarding security and stability in the country.

Study points to decline in food consumption

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Sunday published the results of a study entitled "Towards a Nutritional Balance to Stem Poverty" which focused on the nutrition situation in Jordan as well as rates of income and consumption in various governorates.

The five-chapter study covered 2304 households randomly selected from various governorates and 69 population settlements in the rural and urban regions of the Kingdom.

The first chapter outlines the aims of the study and the method of collecting data while the second chapter deals with the general food and nutrition situation in Jordan. According to this chapter, local food production is far below the required level needed to meet the Jordanian people's needs and there is an increased reliance on imported foodstuffs. For instance, said the study, Jordan produces 15 per cent of its needs of wheat. It said that Jordan exports limited amounts of food products like eggs, fruits and vegetables, but noted that the gap in the balance of food trade stood at 32.1 per cent in 1990.

The third chapter of this study concerns the distribution of foodstuffs in Jordan. The study said that the Ministry of Supply imports certain types of foodstuffs and distributes them to various governorates taking into consideration the needs of each area. But it also said that the state has been encouraging agricultural production.

The fourth chapter deals with the patterns of consumption among the public. This chapter is divided into three parts dealing with the rate of expenditure on food commodities proportional to the income, noting that there was a decline in the rate of food consumed per capita in the early 1990s compared with the 1980s.

The fifth chapter discusses the effects of poverty on people's ability to meet their basic requirements, saying that the absolute poverty line rose from JD40.5 in 1987 to JD68.1 in 1992.

The study also showed that 5.7 per cent of the sample covered in the survey was living below the absolute poverty line adding that poverty is concentrated in Tafleh, Mafrak and Karak governorates.

Jordanian-Palestinian committee to hold 1st meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — A joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee formed during meetings between His Majesty King Hussein and Palestinian President Yasser Arafat in Amman last week, is to hold its first session here Monday to tackle a host of questions related to Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation in political and other fields, Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Jawad Al Anani said Sunday.

The formation of the joint committee was a direct result of the "successful talks the two leaders had during their meetings which reaffirmed the common

goals and the need for continued consultations over different issues of common concern," said the minister in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

He said the committee will direct its attention towards promoting the peace process and ending the sufferings of Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories.

The committee, which will hold its meetings at the Foreign Ministry, will discuss various political issues of common interest to Jordan and Palestine, and will examine the question of forming a number of technical groups to

coordinate Jordanian-Palestinian positions at the ongoing peace process, said Dr. Anani who is a member of the committee.

Following his talks with President Arafat last Tuesday, King Hussein said that the meeting was extremely constructive and productive. "We are at a fresh turning point in terms of the relation with our brothers (and we are) seeking the same aims and same ends for a better future for Palestinians and Jordanians alike and hopefully for the whole region in context of an honourable peace which the future generations can live with and protect,"

the King said.

According to Dr. Anani, the Jordanian side to the committee will include Information Minister Maan Abu Nowar, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Mahdi Farhan and Minister of Water and Irrigation Bassam Qaqish.

The Palestinian side will be represented by Mahmoud Abbas, Yasser Abed Rabbo and Yasser Amr who are members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's Executive Committee, as well as head of Palestinian peace



Dr. Jawad Anani negotiating team Faisal Hussein, and Palestine Ambassador to Jordan Al Tayeb Abdul Rahim.

Jordan, Australia sign trade agreement

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Western Australia have agreed to promote their cooperation in energy, food industries, modern technology, water and agriculture in accordance with a memorandum the two countries signed here Sunday.

The memorandum came at the end of talks held here over the past three days by visiting Western Australia's Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries Monty House and a number of Jordanian government ministers and senior officials.

The two sides stressed in their talks their willingness to maintain and bolster bilateral cooperation in trade. The agreement they signed will lead to increased Australian imports of phosphate, potash and fertilisers, Minister of Industry and Trade Bassam Al Saket said.

Dr. Saket, who signed the memorandum with Mr. House added that Jordan will continue to purchase food supplies like meat and live sheep from Western Australia.

The agreement will also lead to cooperation in land planning and development of desert and arid lands, Dr. Saket said. He said that Australia has agreed to allow Jordan to set up trade fares on its territory to promote the sale of Jordanian goods in Australian markets.

The memorandum also covered ways to encourage the exchange of tourist groups through the concerned authorities and the private sectors in the two countries, added Dr. Saket.

Mr. House and his accompanying three-member delegation earlier met with Minister of Supply Radi Ibrahim.

The Australian delegation Sunday left Jordan for Saudi Arabia on the second leg of a tour in the region.

Brotherhood urges government to help repatriate Palestinian expellees

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Muslim Brotherhood bloc at the Lower House of Parliament Sunday called on the government to defend the cause of the 400 Palestinian expellees still stranded in southern Lebanon and act towards achieving their repatriation.

"The Muslim Brotherhood bloc calls on the Jordanian government to adopt the cause of the expellees and raise their ordeal with the Arab League, the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), the Non-Aligned Movement, the United Nations and other organisations," said a statement issued by the bloc Sunday.

The statement also urged Jordanian political parties and various institutions to send cables to world organisations and stage sit-ins in a show of solidarity with the expellees who were driven out from their homeland by Israel last December.

Seventy expellees were Monday expected to stage a peaceful march towards the occupied Arab lands in a bid to show their determination to return to their homeland, said the statement.

Nearly one fifth of the expellees are suffering from various illnesses as a result of the hardships they had been facing and the lack of health care in addition to the abuse of their human rights, said the statement.

The statement said that the Israeli authorities have adamantly refused to repatriate the expellees as required by U.N. Security Council Resolution 799. It said the U.S. is supporting Israel and



The Muslim Brotherhood bloc at the Lower House of Parliament urges the government to help repatriate Palestinian expellees in South Lebanon as a medical team reports that many of the expelled Palestinians have serious health problems (File photo)

is condoning its actions.

The statement said that the expellees have been facing untold psychological and health sufferings and hardships since they were uprooted from their lands.

A team of Jordanian physicians which visited the expellees last month reported that a large number of them required immediate medical attention and hospitalisation.

The three member-team, which spent several days examining and treating the expellees, including orthopaedist Mustafa Al Salem who said that 15 cases required immediate surgery. Ophthalmologist Azmi Shataha said he examined 80 expellees and found that two were in very serious condition, requiring immediate hospitalisation.

The team, sent on the mission by the Jordan Medical Association (JMA) said the association will prepare a detailed report on the health and living conditions of the expellees and later distribute it to various international organisations and Arab and foreign governments to bring attention to the plight of the "oppressed people."

The statement said that the expellees in Marj Al Zohour require immediate assistance from the International Committee of the Red Cross, and backing from world human rights organisations to help them return to their families and their homeland.

It appealed to the Jordanian public to support moves aimed at prompting the expellees' cause.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Regent congratulates Irish president

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Sunday sent a cable to Irish President Mary Robinson congratulating her on Ireland's national day. Prince Hassan wished Ms. Robinson good health and happiness and the Irish people further progress and prosperity.

3 video shops closed

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Governor Issa Al Omari decided Sunday to close down three video rental shops in Amman for possession of video cassettes "that contradict laws, regulations social norms and public morals."

Omari meets French, UAE envoys

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Education and Higher Education Khaled Omari Sunday discussed with French Ambassador to Jordan, Denis Bauchard the possibility of expanding the teaching of French language in government schools. Ministry of Education-operated schools had introduced French language into a limited number of its schools on experimental basis. Ministry of Education sources said that more than 80 private schools in Jordan offer French language classes to more than 20,000 students; hotel management colleges have also been teaching French language since 1980. Dr. Omari also Sunday conferred in his office with Mohammed Jaseem, ambassador of the United Arab Emirates in Jordan and discussed with him cultural and education cooperation and means of promoting cultural and educational agreements. The ambassador voiced appreciation to the Jordanian Ministry of Education for the facilities it offers towards seconding Jordanian teachers to work in the UAE. The UAE government recently requested the Ministry of Education to supply it with supervisors as well as teachers in various specialisations.

Students from Bosnia and Jordanian colleges

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath did not urge that Bosnian refugees children in Jordan should be allowed access to Jordanian universities as reported yesterday. The news story was based on an item released by the Petra News Agency which states in Arabic that "Her Royal Highness stressed the need to... resolve the problems obstructing the entry of some students into Jordanian universities and colleges."

During Princess Sarvath's visit to the centre hosting Bosnian refugees it was stated that some students amongst Bosnian refugees were unable to apply to institutions of higher education

because they were not carrying the required documents and school records or because they do not have the required fluency in Arabic.

The Princess said that it was necessary to try to resolve the problems facing the Bosnians during their stay in Jordan.

The issue of university enrollment was not singled out as a priority for the universities or the government to work on. In fact it was stated that as there is a quota of places reserved for foreign nationals at the universities, and should any of them be eligible and qualified, applications could be submitted in the usual way.

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of watercolours by Jordanian plastic artist Marwan Al Allan at the Jordanian Writers Association.
- ★ Paintings by Salem Al Dabbagh, Himat Ali and Karim Rassan at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery (10 a.m.-6 p.m.)
- ★ Art exhibition by 26 Jordanian artists at Eshbeella Art Gallery, 6th Circle, Amra Shopping Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of oil paintings by Noelle Shawwa at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of art works by Zubeira Zaqtan at Baladna Art Gallery.

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Mockery of democracy

THERE IS something superficial about the fever of democracy now gripping African countries. In many cases, autocratic regimes, coming under Western pressure which links economic aid to liberalisation, are trying to inject a dose of democracy, while in some other cases the peoples themselves do not seem to distinguish between ethnic affiliations and the notions of democracy and believe that public participation in decision-making is a means to protect their tribal or sectarian interests.

That is not to say that a prescribed democracy along the lines adopted in the West is the immediate solution, given the features of many African societies and the deep-rooted traditions and cultures. It might take decades before all Africans could be freed away from the way of life they have been used to for centuries.

While the overriding factor remains that some of the troubles that we see to many African countries — such as Nigeria, Togo, Liberia and the giant South Africa itself — could be interpreted as the growing pains of democracy, the gaping shortcoming is clear: very little is being done to make the people aware of what democracy means.

It is not just enough to make proclamations of democracy and arrange elections — rigged or otherwise — where the people go to polling booths and cast their ballots. A political culture where people are made fully aware of their rights and the responsibilities and obligations that go with those rights has to be cultivated and nurtured. That is the most important prerequisite for democracy.

Indeed, it goes without saying that many autocratic regimes in Africa could not be expected to garner such a culture simply because it is not in their interest to raise the awareness of their people of their power through the ballot. Instead the leaders are introducing their own versions and brands of ruling which have little to do with democracy.

Recent developments attest to the lack of democratic culture in Africa, although that has to be understood in the context of the continent's long history of exploitation, colonialism and oppression.

What is more striking, however, is the attitude of the so-called champions of democracy in the West. Experts after experts have emphasised the need to raise the awareness of the Africans if the West's declared objective of democracy for all is to be achieved. But what we find today is, again, a selective approach, where Western donors pour aid into the coffers of oppressive regimes while spurning those who have shown willingness to adopt a minimum level of democratic norms which could eventually be developed into full-blown public participation in decision-making. Examples are many in the continent where regimes which continue to be subservient to and cater to the economic interests of past colonial masters are thriving on sheer oppression of their people.

No one can point a gun at anybody and demand that they work to introduce democracy anywhere since the gun itself is undemocratic. But we sure can tell many to stop making a mockery of democracy in Africa.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTRIES

DESPITE IRAQ'S reiteration of its willingness and readiness to follow diplomatic channels and pursue dialogue with other nations, and despite its welcome of proposals to overcome obstacles that still impede understanding with the countries that launched aggression on its territory, we still find the leaders of the so-called new world order persisting in their hostility against the Iraqi people, said Al Rai daily Sunday. The imposition of the embargo on Iraq and the continued threats against its leadership and people are but a manifestation of the Western world's determination to pursue the path of aggression, the paper said. The despatch of a new batch of U.N. inspectors to Iraq and plans directed against Iraqi military and scientific installations represent the latest form of aggression on Iraq, the paper added. All these measures against Iraq are being undertaken in the name of the United Nations and the international legitimacy but in fact these are pretexts to pave the ground for a new military aggression on Iraq, the paper charged. It seems that by basing its assessment on the U.N. inspectors' statement Washington is determined to launch a new round of aggression on the Iraqi people, said the paper. It said we had hoped that the United Nations would be equally determined to carry out its own resolutions in other world issues and in cases that require the use of force to bring about justice.

AMMAN WILL Monday or Tuesday host meetings by the Jordanian — Palestinian political committee, in accordance with a decision taken recently by King Hussein and President Arafat, with the purpose of focusing attention on the outcome of the peace process so far, said Saleh Al Qallab, a columnist in Al Dustour daily. The writer said that Jordanian-Palestinian moves in the Middle East question are based on deep understanding on the part of the two sides of their common destiny and goals and also the means to be followed to safeguard national interests. The writer said the meeting is expected to discuss the American document which was presented to the Palestinian side to the peace talks and the two sides are expected to take a common attitude with regard to its contents. The writer said that the American document is not suitable as a basis for common principles on which the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations can be based unless deep changes to its contents can be made.

Weekly Political Pulse

VIENNA CONFERENCE

Where the words can do forever damage

At the Vienna World Conference on Human Rights last month, something happened that should have caught the attention of the participating delegations but did not. When the drafting committee of the world conference was busy negotiating an agreed language on "ethnic cleansing" with a view to condemn it and declare it a grave violation of human rights, the United States delegation introduced what seemed at that moment a benign amendment saying that the crimes associated with ethnic cleansing are what should be targeted and therefore condemned. No one at the meeting seemed to have sense of the significance of this seemingly innocent change in the language on ethnic cleansing except for the Jordanian delegation which immediately took the floor to warn about the American language and its implications from an international humanitarian law and human rights laws.

What Jordan cautioned about is the clear implication of the U.S. new language which clearly suggests that "ethnic cleansing" per se is not a serious violation of humanitarian and human rights laws but only the crimes committed in the course of implementing it.

It is sad that no other delegation took up the Jordanian complaint, including the other Arab and Muslim nations. It was only after the adoption of the language incorporating the U.S. amendment that many delegations woke up to the dangerous precedent introduced by the U.S. wording.

Now the world is stuck with a principle that distinguished between ethnic cleansing per se and the violations that are usually perpetrated when that policy is carried out. In retrospect, many international jurists had their eyebrows raised at the thought of what Washington in fact has done to the notion of ethnic cleansing. There was wide conviction in all circles, East and West, that ethnic cleansing itself is condemnable and not only if systematic rape, summary or extrajudicial execution, disappearances or torture have been committed when it is pursued by any given state.

When the message of the Vienna conference reached other human rights circles within the United Nations system, many human rights experts hastened to declare their readiness to correct the mistake of the Vienna declaration on ethnic cleansing on no ground other than it being contrary to customary international law as well as to humanitarian law as reflected already in various instruments and conventions.

The Arab and Islamic countries that profess opposition to what has been done in rump Yugoslavia, especially against Muslim Bosnians, should spearhead the corrective measure lest the language of the Vienna declaration on ethnic cleansing should remain untouched and in due course become the international rule of law and as the standard by which ethnic cleansing would be judged not only in Bosnia but elsewhere in the world, including of course the Middle East. The Arab countries, especially, must be concerned about the implications of the Vienna declaration as presently stated for indeed the implications are dangerous as far as the Palestinian conflict is concerned, where there is always a danger that Israel may resort to ethnic cleansing at one stage or another, especially if the peace process comes to naught.

There is also a lesson in what transpired in Vienna. The unwary Arab and Muslim eyes need to wake up to the fact that seemingly benign language may be introduced at times with dire consequences for them in the present and future. It was indeed strange that in spite of the warning that was sounded by Jordan during the world conference against the acceptance of the Washington language none of the other countries did heed the warning. Maybe the late hour at which the Washington amendment was introduced caused other delegations to accept it at face value. Henceforth we all need to be up and on our toes whenever we attend an international conference of the stature of the Vienna world conference and make sure that we do not fall victim to language that could set new standards for the international community without taking into consideration our points of view or our legitimate anxieties.

By Waleed Sadi

Raid on Baghdad

We are all guilty

By Nasser Khasawneh

JUNE 26, 1993: This date will go down in Arab history as the best symbol of the state of humiliation, apathy and defeatism that the Arab people have sadly learnt to accept in the second half of the twentieth century. On this tragic day, the American president ordered an attack on Baghdad which resulted in the death of several innocent Arabs.

It is said that in politics for every action there is always a pretext or justification. Bill Clinton justified this attack by claiming it was to punish Iraq for allegedly attempting to assassinate ex-President George Bush. Even in the cynical world of politics, this justification can only come across as a sick joke. For let us keep in mind that the attack took place while the men accused of attempting to execute this "Iraqi plan" were still pleading their innocence; the trial was not over and the Kuwaiti court had not declared its verdict. This fact in itself suffices to make nonsense of the declared American justification. The real justification is clear: Bill Clinton, haunted by unprecedented unpopularity in the polls, was desperate for ways to improve his ratings and so he went for a well-tested formula — attacking the "big Satan" that poses a threat to American interests. Unfortunately for Mr. Clinton, communism is dead; he had to create a new monster, but this time he wanted something that could be made to look like a monster while being harmless in reality. The choice was easy — he went for the powerless Arabs.

Having in mind this justification, the American attack is, without a doubt, a crime. In the minds of the Arab intellectuals who responded with the customary articles, the identity of the criminal is obvious; it is the American government. But what I aim to prove here is that this criminal has an unlikely partner, an unwilling accomplice to the crime: The Arab people themselves. We share the responsibility for the lives lost on June 26. The victims of the attack were innocent but we, the Arab Nation as a whole, are as guilty as the American government for their murder. We are guilty because we have allowed the situation of the Arab Nation to deteriorate to this pathetic extent that made it possible for these lives to be wasted so easily.

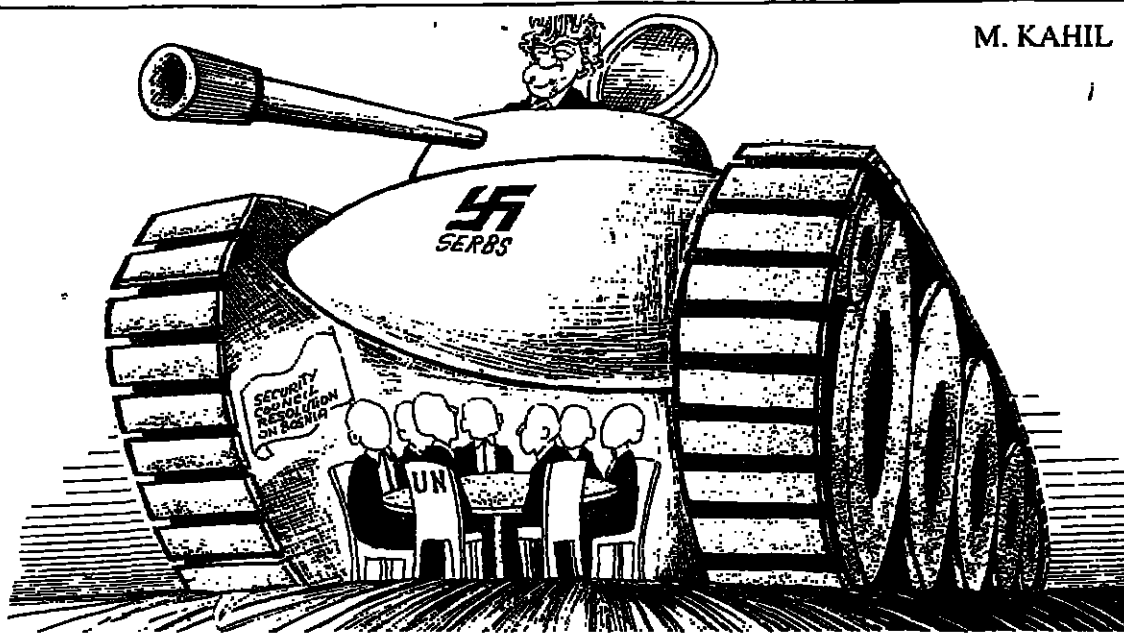
We are guilty because we have accepted for far too long the division of our Arab Nation into twenty-one separate states. The Arab World was divided in order to meet the needs of the imperialist powers in the early part of this century. The Arab World was divided in order to ensure the eternal weakness of its people. United, the Arabs have a great potential to become a major economic and cultural power. France and England recognised this, so they drew fictitious lines on the Arab map and enforced them with their colonial armies. We defeated and expelled those armies, but sadly we forgot to erase the lines and divisions those armies were there to enforce.

How on earth can we claim to be free and independent when we are still living in the shadow of colonialism, when we still recognise borders imposed upon us and not chosen by us? Our ties of language and history testify to the fact that we are one people, and still we accept to live divided in but separate states created not by us but by our imperialist oppressors. We should never have accepted a status quo that resulted in the weakening of our nation and which stopped us from realising our natural potential. Our acceptance of a divided Arab World meant, and still means, that we are prey in the hands of stronger nations determined to use us for the advancement of their own interests regardless of our own. And there can be no better illustration of the tragic results this could lead to than what happened on June 26.

We are also guilty because we have accepted for far too long to live under the rule of dictators who call themselves heads of state. Most countries in the Arab World are governed by autocrats who will do anything to advance their own personal interests regardless of our own. The rule of dictators should be as unacceptable to a proud and free people as the rule of imperialist armies. We should fight them with the same will and dedication we fought the French army in Algeria and Syria, with the same patriotism and heroism we fought the Ottomans under the banner of the Great Arab Revolt. Our struggle for freedom and dignity should not have stopped after the expulsion of the foreign powers; this struggle will be triumphant only when we replace the rule of the gun with the rule of law. Democracy and pluralism are the only guarantee against the further decline of the Arab Nation. For the past 50 years or so we have been too indifferent and lacking in courage to challenge the status quo of autocracy and corruption. This status quo has led to far too many decisions being left in the hands of unaccountable and foolish dictators; decisions that have resulted in tragic consequences for the Arab Nation.

Thus, my argument is that we are guilty because we have been silent for far too long, and this silence was just as deadly on June 26 as the huge American missiles. We should have spoken out against the causes of our weaknesses which made it possible for this latest raid to take place; we should have fought for a united and democratic Arab state. When will we learn that only by struggling for this ideal will we ensure that further such atrocities shall never be committed against our people? We should be ashamed of our indifference and inaction. No people on earth would accept silently what the Arabs have accepted. Thousands of Arabs were killed when Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982 — we watched silently and did not raise a finger. Brothers and sisters of ours were killed when Libya was bombed in 1986 — again we did nothing. Since 1987 and until the present, day hundreds of Arabs in Palestine were and still are meeting their deaths at the hands of the Israeli army — we watch silently.

Shouting out slogans and words against America and Israel is as good as useless. What is needed is change from within. For what must be understood is that we are allowing them to commit these atrocities and get away with it. When Mr. Clinton considered this last raid he took it for granted that the Arabs would not respond in any way; he dismissed us as too weak and apathetic to do anything. Let us prove him wrong by responding in the most rational way. Our response should be in the form of a major popular movement to build a strong and united Arab Nation based on democracy and the rule of law. Steps in that direction are being taken in some parts of the Arab World; the movements towards democracy and unity in Jordan and Yemen are an excellent start. Let us build on them in every corner of the Arab World. Let us send a message to those who wish us harm: Enough is enough. More importantly, let us try to deal with our guilt towards those who already lost their lives because of our inaction. The only way to do this is to sacrifice everything in order to build a better Arab Nation where justice will never be tolerated in silence again. We must do this, for the sake of our own sakes, then for the sake of the massacred children of Sabra and Shatila, the victims of the intifada, the lost lives of June 26 and our own children. The writer, a masters degree student, is the current president of the Arab Society of the University of London. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.



M. KAHIL

Change the U.N.?

This way it will not work

By Adrian Hamilton

TO CAP the fiasco of European-American relations over Bosnia and the humiliation of Britain over nuclear testing, President Bill Clinton has now thrown in a new irritant — the suggestion of an early enlargement of the U.N. Security Council to include Japan and Germany.

It is an idea that has its merits. Indeed, the case for a thoroughgoing reform of the whole Security Council structure is long overdue. So is the case for ending the link between the possession of nuclear weapons and a seat on the Security Council.

"But not at this time," exclaimed a senior U.S. diplomat this weekend, "when the U.N. is shaky and relations with Britain and France are bad enough over Bosnia. It could not be worse."

Well, it could be that, of course. Considering the public disagreements over arming the Bosnians, the appalling gaffe of the letter from Mr. Clinton to Helmut Kohl on the subject just before the Copenhagen summit, and the low esteem in which the U.S. Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, is now held throughout Europe, the remarkable thing is that transatlantic relations have not broken down altogether.

Part of the reason is that no one is in a position to cast the first stone. If you think Mr. Clinton is bad, just think what life would be like if Chancellor Kohl or John Major were sitting in the White House.

By the same token, however, bad as U.S. foreign policy may be at the moment, Washington is the only act in town, or rather the only town to which the world cap look for leadership.

London and Paris may object snifflingly to any widening of the Security Council, for reasons of preserving their own influence as much as anything else, but it is hard to argue that they deserve it. Britain long ago lost the economic clout to justify world influence, and France has never quite gained it. If the possession of nuclear weapons is to be the criteria for membership, then Israel should be there alongside applications from India, Pakistan, Iran and, not so long ago, Iraq.

If the possession of nuclear weapons is no longer to be the entry requirement, then the sooner the Security Council is recast on new lines the better. There is an obvious case — and has been for some years — for Germany and Japan to be brought into the international re-

sponsibilities that their economic power would justify.

America's espousal of their cause in the Security Council is not necessarily a help. It has been one of the more disturbing features of American policy under President Clinton that, having come in preaching the virtues of regional arrangements, he has tended to seek individual U.S. relations with specific allies.

The letter from Mr. Clinton to Chancellor Kohl two weeks ago seeking German support for lifting the arms embargo on the Bosnian Muslims was not just mistimed and misplaced, it brought up again old French fears of American interests breaking up the Community.

So too with the U.S.-Japanese relations. While Asia is growing in its own diverse and dynamic pattern, Washington has remained obsessed with Tokyo in a love-hate relationship, all the more pressured since its original security importance ceased with the end of East-West confrontation.

Even the break-up of the Japanese political system cannot take place without American commentators welcoming the move as something that will boost consumer interests and thus lift American exports.

It may. But it may also produce a new generation of politicians much more nationalist and anti-American.

Exciting though it may be to see in Mr. Clinton's actions deep plots for preserving American hegemony by bringing in old enemies as new allies, the opposite is the case.

Foreign initiatives are being taken in a strategic vacuum — "positions rather than policy" as a diplomat puts it — with little sense of any objectives and rather too much sense of domestic appearances.

Nothing that America does can be without ramifications. In this case, coming together with the U.S. decision to stop nuclear testing, to U.K. embarrassment, it will tend to drive the French and British closer together on security matters. It could produce the right results for all the wrong reasons in Europe. But it is likely to harm the very things Mr. Clinton is formally seeking.

Reforming the Security Council at this stage is to open a Pandora's box of Third World aspirations and European resentments. The U.N. needs recasting, the world needs new institutions for the post-cold war, but not in this way. — The Observer.

Clinton's roles on foreign trip

By Terrence Hunt
The Associated Press

TOKYO — American presidents typically find foreign travel a welcome escape from nagging problems at home, an opportunity to stand tall on the world stage as they grapple with weighty global issues.

But with Bill Clinton, his first trip overseas wasn't quite so simple. Perennially plagued by nagging problems at home, Clinton didn't want his stay in Tokyo to leave the impression that he was aloof from the concerns of everyday people.

So, he wore two hats: statesman and populist.

At one moment, he was the world leader, posing for pictures with allies and shepherding billions of dollars of aid for Russia through the seven-nation economic summit.

The next moment, Clinton was the concerned president, calling home in a satellite radio address with soothing words of reassurance for flood victims in the Midwest.

Mr. Clinton's low poll ratings and doubts about his global leadership forced him to juggle foreign and domestic issues in Tokyo, linking what he was doing abroad with pressing needs at home.

So, Mr. Clinton's dictionary definition of economic summitry was simple: jobs. Or more accurately, American jobs.

He tried to hijack the economic summit and transform it into the jobs summit, a phrase used over and over again by his aides as they discussed the modest efforts of the leaders to stimulate economic growth and lower trade barriers.

"Some have called this a jobs

summit," Mr. Clinton has said, acting as if the phrase originated elsewhere. "And they are right because the creation of new jobs in the United States and in all the other countries here present was at the centre of all of our discussions."

The jobs' emphasis extended all the way to discussions over the title of the summit's final communiqué.

The Japanese wanted the name of the summit to be "strengthening collective engagement."

Mr. Clinton's team got it switched to a more populist sounding name: "A strengthened commitment to jobs and growth."

Mr. Clinton has not collected many frequent flyer miles. In fact, the only other trip he's made out of the country in six months was to Vancouver for an April summit with Mr. Yeltsin.

There's a reason for that. Mr.

Clinton wasn't elected to be the foreign policy president. He won the White House with instructions for fix the economy.

When he returns to Washington from Asia and a quick vacation in Hawaii, he'll find a thorny problem still stuck in his box: the difficult task of refereeing House and Senate negotiations as they seek agreement on a \$500 billion package of painful tax increases and spending cuts.

"I am hoping that what happened this week will strengthen the resolve of the Congress to go ahead and pass the economic plan and to do it in short order so that we can get on to other things," Mr. Clinton said at his summit-ending news conference.

Next in line is Mr. Clinton's yet-to-be unveiled national health insurance programme. That bitter fight may leave Mr. Clinton longing for another trip overseas.

LETTERS

To add ad or not?

To the Editor:

Being a regular reader of your esteemed daily, and a medical professional myself, I was astounded to see your front page of July 4th. With all due respect and appreciation to the work of Dr. Johnson, a pioneer in some fields of heart surgery, I have to disagree with the way this gentleman's visit to Jordan was being commercialised, also with help of the Jordan Times. Regardless of how true and "information" is not in accordance with the medico-ethical code in this part of the world and should have been rejected for print, or at least it should have been clearly marked for what it was: Advertisement.

S. Salah, M.D.,
P.O. Box 5385,
Amman.



Cruise ships pose problem for Caribbean holiday spots

By Sue Kendall
Agence France Presse

NASSAU — The increasing number of cruise ships visiting traditional Caribbean tourist spots is causing concern to regional governments.

Apart from fears of falling revenue because cruise ship tourists spend less money in the host country, there are increasing fears of pollution and concern over who will foot the bill.

The cruise lines have pledged \$1.5 million towards the cost of preserving the marine environment, but many Caribbean states feel that is not enough.

The principal natural resource of the Caribbean island states is their environment. Bahamas Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham told Caribbean Community

(Caricom) leaders at their annual summit here this week.

"There is always the continuing risk of serious environmental and ecological disruption resulting from the cumulative impact of debris left in the Caribbean by the freighters and the pleasure cruises and other craft which traverse the Caribbean."

"Because we are all so dependent on tourism as the principle engine of our economies, marine pollution could savage the core of economic activity in the majority of islands," Mr. Ingraham added.

The Caricom summit ended after a marathon final session during which delegates struggled to agree on ways to cope with the problem.

The regional leaders finally announced agreement in principle that the 13 member states

would set a minimum level for a port tax on all cruise passengers. But they were unable to agree on a figure.

"We do not have a number," Mr. Ingraham told a press conference, "but the principle of the minimum tax was agreed."

The Bahamas and Jamaica are already charging a so-called head tax for cruise passengers of \$15 and would favour a minimum for the region of \$10, but other smaller Caricom members feel this is too high.

Barbados Prime Minister Erskine Sandford made it clear to reporters that his country's agreement to double its current tax from three to six dollars in September was as far as he was prepared to go for the moment.

At one time most of the holidaymakers visiting tourist-depen-

dent economies such as the Bahamas arrived by plane and stayed for at least several days.

But in the past decade cruise-ship tourism has become increasingly popular, and by 1990 the region saw 7.5 million cruise-ship visitors against 11.8 million land-based tourists.

The two sets of visitors spent a total of \$8.9 billion, and tourism provided some 300,000 jobs in a region where the total population is less than six million.

But Caribbean governments fear that cruise ships are increasingly self-sufficient and their passengers are bringing in less money to local economies.

The passengers sleep on board, often eat on board and are increasingly being offered everything they could wish to buy on

board as well, officials say.

Caricom's tourist-dependent states feel the cruise ships are not contributing enough to the cost of the infrastructure needed for the visitors, or to combat pollution.

"It is not our fault that the Pacific Islands are far apart, that the Mediterranean is polluted, or Norway and Alaska are cold even in the summer," St. Vincent and the Grenadines Premier James Mitchell told delegates to this week's Caricom summit.

"The cruise ship business is one fast area of growth even in these recessionary times."

"If a tourist cannot afford a \$10 bill tip a day on holiday, then I am not sure that this is the type of person we want in our relatively unpolluted environment," Mr. Mitchell added.

Glimpses from a forgotten life

By David Keys

ONE OF the greatest yet least known of 20th century photographers is being commemorated in an exhibition which has just opened in London.

The 74 photographs in the show at the Simon Tracy Gallery in Marylebone, north-west London, were taken by the American ethnologist Edward Curtis between 1900 and 1928.

Curtis carried out the largest photographic record made of American Indian life. He took 40,000 pictures, of which 2,300 were attached to a 291-edition, 40-volume work he produced on his researches.

His work was supported by President Roosevelt, who wrote in a foreword: "Our generation offers the last chance to do what Mr. Curtis has done. He has caught glimpses into that strange spiritual life and mental life from whose innermost recesses white men are forever barred."

Curtis recorded the costumes, rituals and lifestyles of 80 American tribes in more than a score of U.S. states and Canadian provinces.

Despite Roosevelt's generally accurate claim that non-Indians were "forever barred" from the "innermost recesses" of Indian spiritual life, Curtis did become deeply involved in his subject, both professionally and spiritual-



Tearing Lodge, a Piegan Indian's photo belonging to Edward Curtis's 40,000 photographs of North American Indians



Hopi snake priest

ly. He was the only white man to be enrolled as a Hopi Indian priest — and took part in the ultra-secret 16-day Hopi Snake Dance, perhaps the most famous of all North American Indian rituals.

While photographing (and

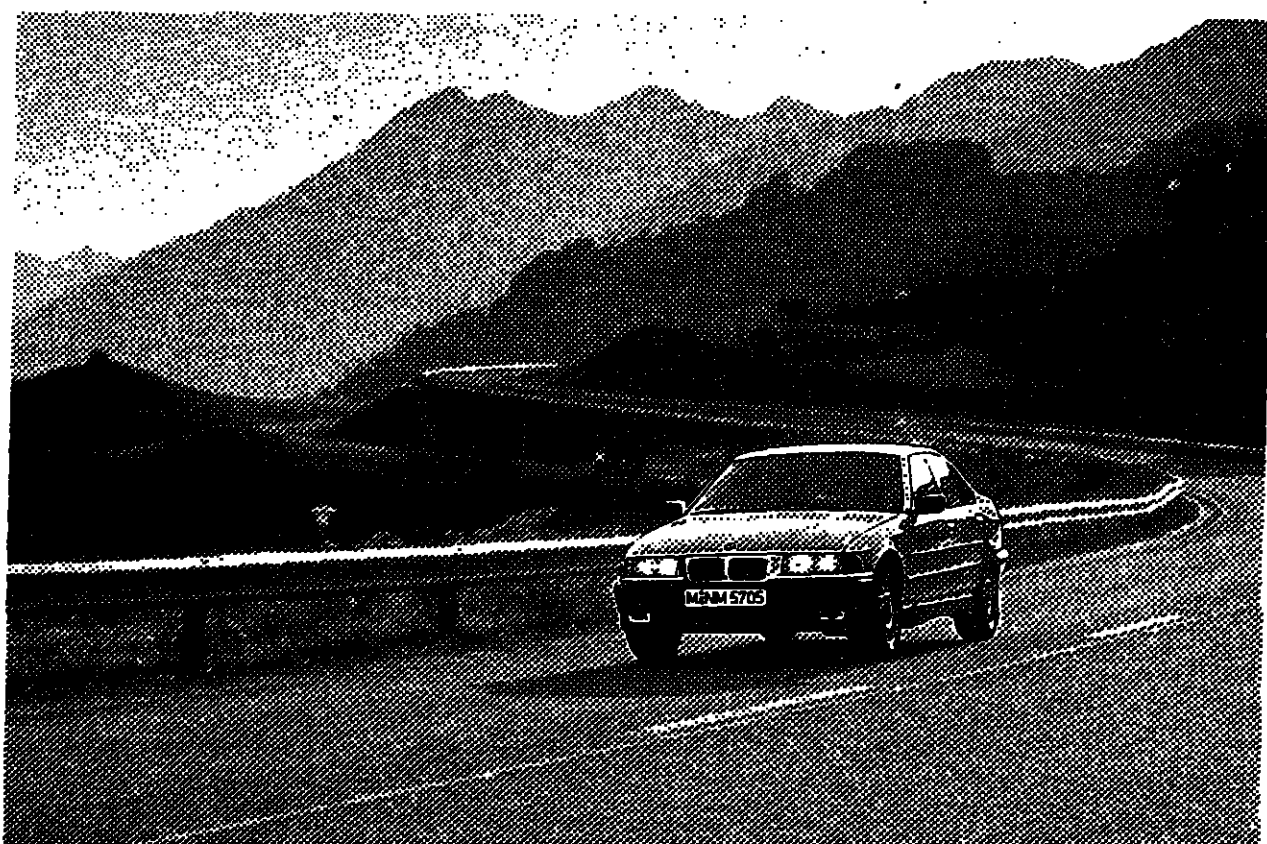
making sound recordings) of Indian life, he tried to live as the Indians did — and once almost lost his life while trying to catch giant octopuses with his hands. The Indians called him "Shadow Catcher."

Before World War I there was

great public enthusiasm for his work. But from 1914 until the seventies, interest was low. Recent years, however, have seen a resurgence, a set of his 20-volume work (complete with its 2,300 pictures) sold at auction last year for \$360,000 (£243,000).

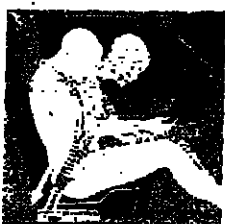
Curtis died, aged 84, in 1952. He spent many years in a Denver hospital suffering from physical and mental exhaustion and ended his days in anonymity on a Californian farm raising ducks and chickens — The Independent.

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One of the best things about the safety concept of the BMW 3 Series is that it never interferes with the sheer pleasure of driving. You'll only notice it at a time when you'll appreciate it most. Take, for instance, the belt latch tensioners on the front seat belts. These actually tighten the belts by several inches in the event of an impact, so that the upper body hardly moves forward, as compared to ordinary seat belts, where the body is jerked forward before being whipped back.

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EC says it lost all the job benefits of 1980 boom years

BRUSSELS (AFP) — The European Community (EC) has lost all the employment gains it made during the boom years of the late 1980s, the EC's executive European Commission has said.

In a report on the EC's unemployment crisis, it confirmed predictions that the jobless rate would climb to 12 per cent by the end of 1994, up from about 10.6 per cent currently.

Political leaders estimated that a 12 per cent unemployment rate translates into a record 20 million people without jobs.

Presenting the report, Social Affairs Commissioner Padraig Flynn said: "The outlook is extremely gloomy. We need more economic growth but we will not solve the unemployment problem by growth alone. A new approach is urgently needed."

He warned that there were no

easy answers to job creation, but warned against the "foolish" impulse to erect trade barriers against the outside world by blocking imports.

Mr. Flynn said: "We need to develop a more employment-intensive pattern of output. We need to develop new jobs in new sectors. We need to make the labour market systems work better."

EC leaders instructed the commission at a Copenhagen summit last month to prepare proposals on growth, competitiveness and employment by the year-end.

Officials have indicated that it could focus on reducing social charges on employers but maintaining welfare standards through, for example, energy taxes.

Mr. Flynn's report said there had been a reversal of the

"dramatic" employment gains during the boom years of the late 1980s, when nine million new jobs had been created.

"By the end of 1993, it is estimated that all the gains of the 1980s in terms of employment will have been lost, and unemployment will be back at its 1985 level," it said.

The report said that: — Manufacturing labour costs are highest in Germany, followed by Belgium, and lowest in Portugal. Costs in Britain are on the low end of the scale, just above Spain and Ireland.

— Surveys of employers indicate that workers have the greatest social protection in Italy and the lowest in Britain.

— Labour costs are highest in Hamburg, followed by the Paris region. South-east England has roughly the same low cost struc-

ture as southern Italy.

— In 1992, only 60 per cent of people of working age in the EC were at work, compared to 70 per cent in the United States and 75 per cent in Japan.

— In 1991 45 per cent of the EC unemployed had been out of work for a year or more. The figure was over 65 per cent in Italy, and more than 60 per cent in Belgium and Ireland.

— Since the early 1970s the United States has created three times as many jobs as the EC.

— The jobless rate had already passed its previous 1985 peak in Britain, France, Denmark, Ireland and Italy.

— In Germany and Denmark, over 70 per cent of the population has "post-compulsory" education, compared to less than 40 per cent in Britain, 30 per cent in Spain and 15 per cent in Portugal.

Third World health care seen profitable investment

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly two million children die each year, mostly in the Third World, of illnesses that could be prevented with inexpensive vaccines.

Further, more than seven million adults die of diseases such as tuberculosis, which could be prevented at little cost, according to the World Health Organisation.

The World Bank views such loss not only as tragic — but as the bane of production.

In its annual World Development Report, the bank also warns that unless the spread of AIDS is curbed, the worldwide death toll from the disease could reach more than 1.8 million by the end of the century.

The report looks at disease with a banker's eye and views prevention as an investment that will pay off in the reduction of poverty.

The leading source of loans for poor countries, the World Bank

earns about \$1 billion annually and plows it back into new lending, which reached \$23 billion last year.

Much of the nearly \$2 trillion currently devoted to health services worldwide "is either spent on the wrong things, or wasted, or used primarily to help the better off," said Dean Jamison, the bank official who led the team making the report.

He said nearly two million children die each year from diseases such as measles, tetanus and whooping cough, which in better-developed countries are prevented with inexpensive vaccines.

Yet, the report also cited progress. A Third World infant born in 1950 could expect to live only to 40. By 1990, the age was 63. In 1950 about 28 every 100 babies died before they were five. In 1990, the number had dropped to 10 out of 100.

In 1950, smallpox killed five million people a year. Now, the disease is believed to have been wiped out.

The report, called "Investing in Health," says health care not only helps people live longer, happier lives, but has other benefits as well.

It gave several examples: — In the area around Madras, India, a study found that among people who had leprosy, those deformed by the disease earned only about one-third as much as those who were not deformed. If deformity could have been prevented among India's 645,000 lepers, the country's annual production would have increased by about \$130 million.

— In African valleys, inoculations for river blindness, or onchocerciasis, helps about 30 million people at a cost of less than \$1 each. The project has made available about 25 million

hectares (60 million acres) of cropland as people returned to abandoned areas. The bank estimates the annual rate of return on money spent at 17 per cent to 28 per cent.

— In the mountain kingdom of Nepal, only five out of every 100 malnourished children go to school. But of those who simply get enough to eat, 27 out of every 100 are likely to show up in the classroom.

The bank calculated that the poorest countries spend an average of \$6 per citizen a year on health care, but that programmes costing as few as \$12 per person annually could cut disease by about 25 per cent.

It said those programmes should include child immunizations, health services at schools and the distribution of information about family planning, nutrition, tobacco, alcohol and AIDS.

Survey: Japanese corporate profitability deteriorates

TOKYO (Agencies) — Efficiency of Japanese businesses listed on the nation's three major stock exchanges deteriorated further in the financial year ended March 31, the Nihon Keizai Shimbun has reported.

Return on equity — after-tax profits as a percentage of shareholder funds — of 1,479 listed Japanese firms was the lowest in 20 years at 3.64 per cent, down from 4.43 per cent in fiscal 1975, when economy was hit by the oil crisis, according to a survey conducted by the daily.

The economic daily's survey covered 1,479 companies listed on the Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya stock exchanges, except for banks, securities companies and insurance firms.

The sharp drop stemmed mainly from a 37 per cent decline in the combined net profits of the listed companies, the daily said.

The survey also showed that the turnover ratio of total liabilities and net worth, a benchmark index to measure how efficiently a company used its capital, was at a 20-year low of 1.02 in all industries in fiscal 1992, down from 1.08 the previous year.

Companies had failed to increase sales in spite of efforts to

trim assets, such as manufacturing facilities, the daily said.

Another survey showed that nearly three-quarters of Japan's leading companies plan cutbacks in the number of graduates they hire next year.

Seventy-four per cent of firms surveyed said they would reduce their recruit intake. The planned cutbacks in recruitment averaged about 33 per cent, said the survey, published in the Mainichi Shimbun newspaper.

The biggest reductions will occur in the electronics, computer, communications machinery, precision machinery and other manufacturing sectors, the survey said.

Leading camera maker Minolta Camera Co. and Japan Airlines Co. will hire no new graduates at all, said the survey, conducted among 200 major companies.

A similar poll conducted by Kyodo News Agency last week showed about seven in 10 Japanese companies planned drastic cuts in recruitment.

Japanese companies, battling the worst economic slowdown since World War II, are under intense pressure to cut costs. A stronger yen is also undermining their competitiveness in overseas markets.

Bank of Japan Governor Yasuhiro Mieno said recently that the decline of the Japanese economy has ceased and activity might begin to recover in the second half of fiscal 1993 ending in March.

"Generally speaking, the economy has stopped falling further, there is no change in the prospects that it could start recovering moderately in the latter half," the central bank chief told a press conference.

Branch managers of the central bank had taken the same view at their last week that recovery of the Japanese economy would be "very moderate," Mr. Mieno said.

No major improvement had been seen in capital investment by companies nor in consumer spending, while business confidence remained depressed by the high exchange value of the yen, he said.

The central bank governor said that a careful approach was necessary to solve the problem of Japan's huge trade surplus.

Mr. Mieno said that excessive stimulation of the economy, to help slash the surplus would invite inflation in Japan and that would be harmful to stable growth of the world economy.

New 5-year S.Korean plan too 'rosy' to achieve, critics say

SEOUL (AFP) — President Kim Young-Sam's new five-year economic plan aiming to bring South Korea to the threshold of leading industrial country status by 1998 is too "rosy" to achieve, critics say.

According to the new development plan Kim announced Friday, four months after taking office, South Korea will achieve annual growth of seven per cent to double its per capita gross national product (GNP) to 14,000 by 1998.

The plan also says that with an annual 10 to 11 per cent boost in exports, the nation's balance of payments will improve from this year's expected deficit of \$1.4 billion to \$5.3 billion in surplus by 1998, while inflation will be pegged down at an annual average of 3.7 per cent over the next five years.

"We are trying to catch three rabbits (growth, prices and trade surplus) at the same time, and this is an impossible objective," said Yoon In-Ha, the opposition Democratic Party policy committee vice chairman.

"Besides the new plan did not reveal how and where money will be raised to finance all the industrial and infrastructural projects," Mr. Yoo added.

The ruling Democratic Liberal Party policy coordination chief, Suh Sang-Mox, a Stanford-

educated economist, admits that financing is the problem yet to be resolved. But he counters that catching the "three rabbits" is an appropriate objective since the national economy cannot develop soundly if even one of them remains free.

Mr. Yoo says that the new government has already released a \$7.5 billion fund to reinvigorate the stagnant economy but there are as yet few signs of new investment in the manufacturing sector.

He says that the fund is adding inflationary pressure with consumer prices already rising by 4.2 per cent during the first six months of this year despite a government target for the whole year of 4.9 per cent.

In addition, a labour dispute at the country's top business group, Hyundai, threatens to spread to other firms, which could result in another annual round of hefty wage hikes which the government is trying hard to avoid.

Mr. Suh points out that South Korea's international competitiveness has weakened sharply because of the high annual wage hikes averaging 18 per cent in the last six years, producing an eight to 10 per cent disparity with the rises in productivity.

"Whether the nation's workers will listen to President Kim's plea for them to share the pain of the

national effort to help the economy by accepting a lower wage increase is a big question," said one labour union leader.

Korea University business administration professor Le E Pil-Sang regretted that their new economic plan did not clarify how soon the 50-called real-name financial transaction system would be put into force.

He argues that the ban on the use of fictitious names in financial transaction should be enforced immediately to wipe out the nation's tax-evading underground economy, which reputedly constitutes 30 per cent of the national income.

President Kim himself pledged during his election campaign to implement the real-name system promptly as a way of stamping out graft and corruption and instituting economic "justice" in the country.

But the new government is delaying its enforcement out of fears that "black money" might flee the fledgling stock market and move abroad.

Mr. Suh says that the five-year economic plan was hastily drafted in a few months so it needs refinement in the course of execution.

"This new five-year economic plan is not our Bible but simply a guideline," Mr. Suh says.

Jordanian accountant becomes member of IASC executive committee

AMMAN (J.T.) — During the board meeting of the International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC) held in London between June 28 and July 2, 1993, Fouad Alaaeddin, Jordan's representative (Area Managing Partner for the Middle East of Arthur Anderson & Co.), was elected for the membership of the Executive Committee of IASC. This committee includes the chairman, deputy chairman, secretary general and three board members.

IASC celebrated its 20th anniversary on June 29, 1993 and

a conference was held in conjunction with this occasion titled "International Capital Markets and Harmonisation of International Accounting Standards."

Over 200 representatives from the world's leading financial and business communities gathered at the conference to mark the anniversary. They resolved unanimously to support the improvement and harmonisation of financial reporting through the development of international accounting standards.

RBI: Wrong emphasis hampers India

BOMBAY (R) — India must spend more on health care, education and welfare to counter widespread poverty and illiteracy in the countryside, a central bank study says.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) says India has neglected the countryside in favour of developing costly higher-level institutions such as universities and hospitals in towns and cities.

As a result it has fallen far behind many other developing countries in Asia, including China, in terms of infant mortality levels and life expectancy.

The corporate sector could be encouraged to take part more actively in financing social sector projects through tax relief, says the report.

Despite dramatic increases in food grain output, much of the population remains undernourished, according to the study. It recommends refocusing health spending on public health, to improve sanitation, drinking water quality and family welfare.

The study is part of a general reassessment by India of its spending priorities as it adopts a more market-oriented economy

and reverses four decades of Indian-style socialism.

In a landmark speech in Calcutta last week, Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao signalled the end of state domination of heavy industry, arguing that the government should use its resources for health and welfare.

After independence in 1947, India developed huge state-run heavy industries while failing to provide adequate health care or education for the poor.

A population that now totals 880 million, half is illiterate. "Despite substantial improve-

ments, India's performance with respect to human development is considered to be low by international standards," says the report, compiled by the central bank's Department of Economic Analysis and Policy.

"With regard to both education as well as health, India's achievements pale into insignificance when compared with those of other Asian countries," it adds.

"India is in fact in a paradoxical situation of having one of the largest pools of both scientific personnel as well as illiterate persons in the world."

Peanuts



Andy Capp



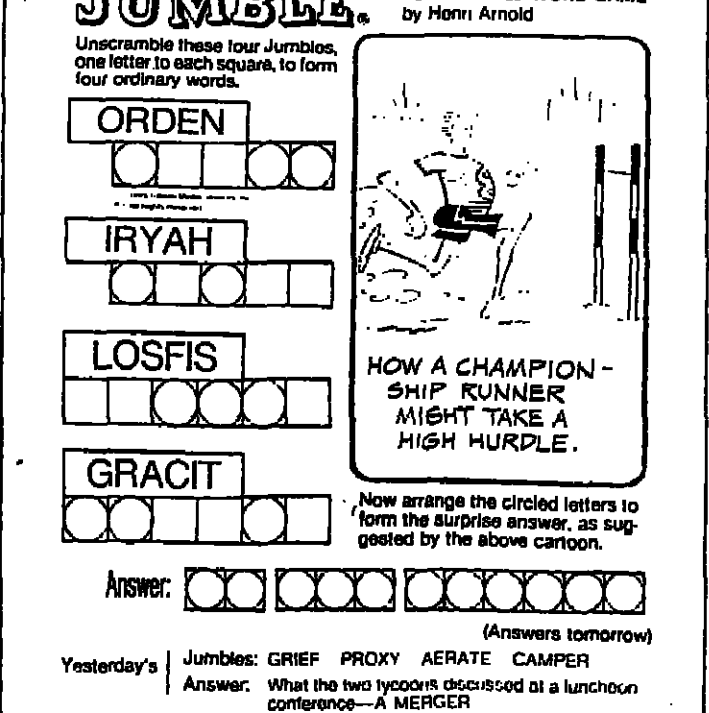
Mutt'n'Jeff



THE BETTER HALF By Glasbergen



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold



THE Daily Crossword by Joel Davajan



Clinton promises 'strong' America, warns N. Korea on nuclear arms

PANMUNJOM, Korea (Agencies) — U.S. President Bill Clinton Sunday issued another stern warning to North Korea against developing nuclear weapons, saying such a move would trigger massive retaliation.

"It is pointless for them to try to develop nuclear weapons, because if they did it would be the end of their country," Mr. Clinton said after visiting the Bridge of No Return here separating North and South Korea.

The stark warning came four days before U.S. and North Korean negotiators meet in Geneva to discuss the North's refusal to allow international inspection of its suspected nuclear weapons development sites.

But the president, who was two years old when the Korean War broke out in 1950 and who opposed the Vietnam War, also said he hoped the time would come when "they (the North Koreans) will just be able to walk over here in peace."

He became the first U.S. president to go so close — 20 metres — to the mid-point of the Military Demarcation Line running through the heavily reinforced demilitarised zone which divides the two Koreas.

It was on that bridge that the last U.S. prisoners of war were returned after the war ended with a divided Korea in July of 1953, and where the captured crewmen of the Pueblo, a U.S. merchant ship detained by the North for several months, were returned in 1968.

Earlier during his two-hour visit to the zone, Mr. Clinton talked with U.S. troops at nearby Outpost Ouellette in Camp Boniface, known as the "tripwire" to any mass North Korean attack on the South.

Boniface was named after an American soldier killed by axe-wielding North Koreans in 1976 while pruning trees in the zone.

Heavy rains and lightning that

had prevented the presidential party, which included Defence Secretary Les Aspin and Secretary of State Warren Christopher, from taking a helicopter to the DMZ, drenched the camp.

The president, dressed in a green fatigue jacket, khaki trousers and a U.S. army hat, looked through binoculars over a misty valley at North Korean border guards 150 metres away and at "propaganda village", a fake northern village with no inhabitants.

He was briefed by U.S. Army Colonel John Shortall from a sandbagged outpost covered with camouflage netting, overlooking deep camouflaged bunkers and trenches.

"Anyone who sees this will understand why we have to stay," in Korea, he said referring to the palpable tension along the demarcation line.

"We should all be proud of our young men in uniform up here... This confirms the wisdom of what our country has been doing for the past 40 years. If we stay strong and resolute we know that this will work."

Mr. Clinton's tough tone, coupled with his expressed hopes for eventual reunification of the Korean peninsula and the knocking down of the last Cold War wall, reflected the tone of his two-day visit to South Korea.

During the visit, which was scheduled to end later Sunday after meetings with servicemen and their families, he outlined a "vision" for the Asia Pacific based on what he called the bedrock of U.S. military presence, told North Koreans not to underestimate Washington and assured the South that U.S. troops would stay as long as the Korean people wanted them to.

But, he said, in speeches on the first day of the visit Saturday, dialogue, the support of democratic movements and the eli-

mination of deadly weapons in the region were an essential part of the vision.

Asked how long he thought Korea would remain divided, he said: "I don't know, I hope it won't be long but in the meantime, I am glad you men (U.S. servicemen) are here. In the end our side... will prevail."

Thousands of front-line U.S. troops forgot the threat from the North for an hour at Camp Casey Sunday to give President Clinton a roaring welcome.

The troops of the front-line Second Division, the unit closest to Korea's tense demilitarised zone, roared their approval when he said he had gone closer to the demarcation line than any U.S. president since the end of the war here in 1953.

Speaking to the gathering in a huge hangar out of the driving rain, Mr. Clinton called the men "the critical part of the finest forces in the United States of America."

"I saw the North Korean guards through binoculars... and because of you some day they will be free," Mr. Clinton told them to another round of deafening applause, foot-stomping and whistles.

Though some said the cold war and all sorts of threats to the U.S. may have ended, "many threats continue," he said.

"You are second to none," he told the delighted troops, repeating the division motto, and went on to assure them that though the defence budget was being cut — "U.S. forces must still be able to fight and win a war, and that winning edge is you."

As he left the hangar, Clinton — true to form — grabbed a saxophone from the hands of a member of the military band that had hailed the chief on his way in, and played.

Meanwhile, Defence Secretary Les Aspin Sunday assured South Korea that Washington would

establish a "trustworthy" strategy to crush North Korean troops in case of renewed war on the Korean peninsula.

Mr. Aspin met Defence Minister Kwon Young-Hae for talks to dispel South Korea's concern over a defence strategy being discussed in Washington.

In a move to cut the military budget, Washington has been discussing the "win-hold-win" strategy of fighting one war at a time if conflict broke out in two regions at once, holding the line on the other until the first was resolved.

"Defence Secretary Aspin told Kwon the United States should be able to preserve an ability to fight and win two regional wars at once," a Defence Ministry spokesman said.

Secretary of State Christopher said the United States will not seek improved ties with North Korea before the Communist state resolves nuclear suspicions by opening its facilities to U.N. and inter-Korean inspections, South Korean officials said Sunday.

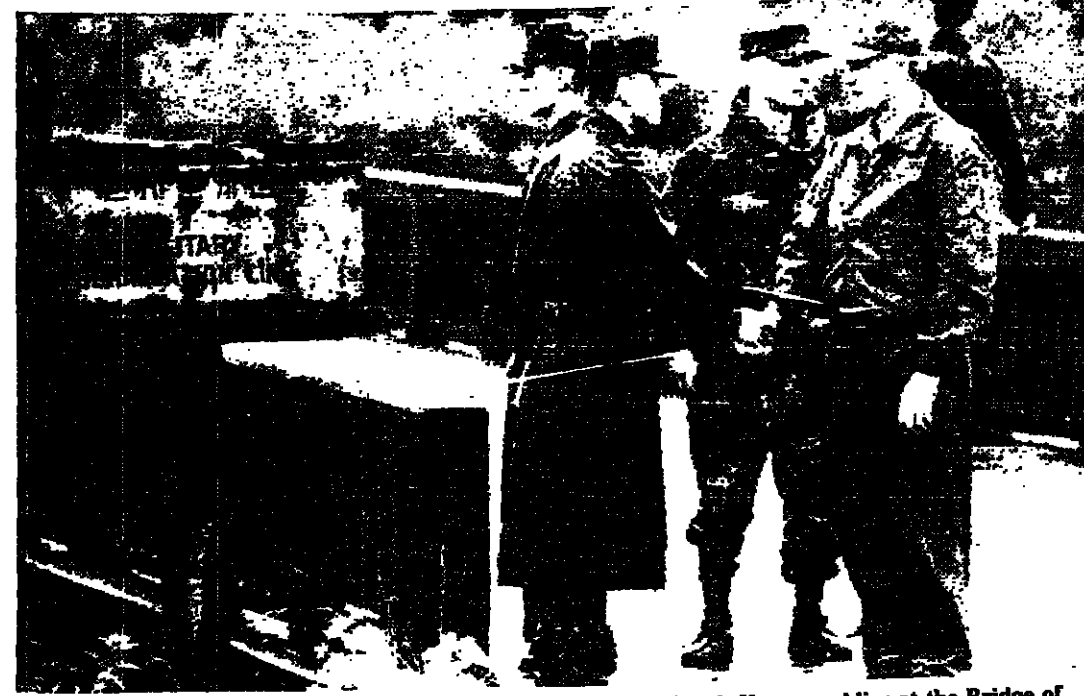
Mr. Christopher reconfirmed the American position when he met with his South Korean counterpart, Han Sung-Joo, for 50 minutes Sunday, the Foreign Ministry officials said.

Mr. Christopher briefed Mr. Han on what the United States would seek to achieve in next week's high-level talks with North Korea in Geneva.

Later Sunday President Clinton left South Korea at the end of his trip.

Mr. Clinton and his wife Hillary are heading for Hawaii, where they will inspect the islands' military garrison and pay their respects at the USS Arizona memorial at Pearl Harbour later Sunday.

Their programme for the rest of their stay, which ends on Wednesday, is private.



U.S. President Bill Clinton shakes hands with an unidentified South Korean soldier at the Bridge of No Return Sunday (AFP photo)

U.S. water treatment plant flooded

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — A swollen tributary of the Mississippi River flooded the Des Moines water treatment plant early Sunday, leaving about 250,000 people in central Iowa without safe drinking water.

Workers spent Saturday piling up dirt on the 15-foot protective walls surrounding the plant, hoping to hold back the swollen Raccoon River.

But around 1 a.m. (0500 GMT) Sunday, the river spilled into tanks that hold 30 million gallons (114 litres) of water and contaminated the entire supply, said L.D. McMullen, Des Moines water works general manager.

Shortly after that, power to the plant was knocked out, preventing it from pumping any water into the system, he said.

Mr. McMullen said it could be days or even weeks before the plant can resume operation and advised people to stock up on bottled water. The plant supplies water to Des Moines and eight surrounding communities.

Meanwhile, 12 people died of heat-related causes in the Philadelphia area alone Saturday as a record-setting heat wave gripped the east coast.

The heat has now killed 21 people along the eastern seaboard during the past week.

The latest victims included a 4-year-old boy who had climbed into his aunt's parked station wagon while visiting relatives outside Philadelphia, police said. It was not known how long had been in the car, police said.

Meanwhile, New York City fired for a third straight day Saturday, tying a record dating to 1948. No relief was expected until Tuesday, when a frontal system from the west was forecast to arrive.

Philadelphia also tied its record for consecutive days of above 100-degree (38 C) temperatures. The last time its temperatures topped 100 (38 C) for three days in a row was in 1966.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Russian troops to quit Germany on time

IRKUTSK, Russia (R) — President Boris Yeltsin Sunday assured visiting German Chancellor Helmut Kohl that Russian troops still stationed in former east Germany would leave on schedule by August next year. "We have no differences of opinion over the withdrawal," he told reporters at the end of two days of talks with Mr. Kohl in Siberia. On Saturday, however, Mr. Yeltsin had asked Mr. Kohl for more help in building housing for returning Russian officers, the single biggest obstacle to a rapid withdrawal.

Bonn has already committed 7.8 billion marks (\$4.8 billion) to a building programme which it says is on schedule. Russia still has some 190,000 soldiers on German soil out of the 380,000 Soviet troops which were stationed in east Germany when it was still the front line of the cold war stand-off between East and West.

Monsoon claims 102 lives across India

NEW DELHI (AP) — At least 102 people were killed in monsoon-related incidents in several parts of India while raging rivers flooded swaths of land, news reports said Sunday. About two million people have suffered because of the monsoon that has lashed many parts of the country since the last week of June, the Hindustan Times newspaper said. They include people who are marooned or have lost their relatives, livestock, homes and businesses. On Saturday, 10 people were killed when their brick houses collapsed in heavy rains in the western state of Gujarat, the newspaper said. The deaths raised to 34 the number of people killed in Gujarat this monsoon. Besides, 68 people have died in the four northern states of Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Jammu-Kashmir. In the far eastern state of Assam, the Brahmaputra River submerged 50 villages where about 15,000 people are marooned, the Statesman newspaper said.

13 hurt in German arson attack

MUNICH (AFP) — Thirteen people were hurt, one seriously, early Sunday morning when arsonists set fire to a building partly occupied by foreigners in Kempten, Bavaria, police here said. The attackers gained easy access to the house through the garage and one person was seriously hurt as the staircase went up in flames. Twelve others, half of them foreigners, suffered from smoke inhalation. Unidentified arsonists also started a fire overnight in the section dealing with foreigners at regional administrative offices in Roth close to Nuremberg. It was quickly doused by firemen, but most of the files and furniture were destroyed, police said. There have been more than 20 arson attacks against foreigners in Germany since a blaze in Solling on May 28 when five Turkish people were killed.

9 killed in Swiss rafting accident

SCUOL, Switzerland (AFP) — Nine German and Austrian tourists were killed and 17 were hurt Saturday in a rafting accident on the Inn River in eastern Switzerland, police reported. They said three pneumatic boats overturned at a point between Scuol and Paradella opposite a construction site in a stretch of water that was off-limits to navigation. Police said one of the 17 persons injured was in serious condition. Eight drowned in the river while a ninth succumbed in a Zurich hospital. Police said the boats on which the 26 people were travelling were caught up in a violent current and most of the passengers were hurled overboard.

Japan politicians slap Russians, Americans

TOKYO (R) — Campaigning for next Sunday's general election, a senior Japanese politician called the Russian foreign minister a "hairy barbarian", while another said the United States was riddled with AIDS, drugs and violence.

Newspapers reported Sunday that lawmaker Shintaro Ishihara, a hawkish member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and one of a handful of contenders to become its leader, made the remarks about the Russian when he delivered a speech in Kagoshima, southern Japan, Saturday.

"Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa greeted (Andrei) Kozyrev with a smile, but his eyes were not smiling. The 'keto' (hairy barbarian) greeted Miyazawa joyfully and shook hands. When a white man comes, Miyazawa just welcomes them too much," the daily Asahi Shimbun quoted Mr. Ishihara as saying.

"If I were prime minister, I would keep silent, with my hands deep in my pockets," Mr. Ishihara said.

Mr. Kozyrev accompanied President Boris Yeltsin in Tokyo last week for talks with Mr. Miyazawa and leaders of the Group of Seven leading industrialised nations.

"Russia took 600,000 (Japanese) prisoners of war and stole the four Northern Islands. It dumped nuclear waste in the Sea of Japan and is an outrageous country," Mr. Ishihara was quoted as saying.

In the July 18 general election for the lower house of parliament, the LDP is in danger of losing power for the first time in nearly 40 years, as rebels have left the party and formed two new ones.

Meanwhile, another LDP figure known for racial slurs criticised the United States in making the point that Japan was a safe place and the Japanese needed the LDP to keep it that way.

Michio Watanabe, a former deputy premier who has declared his intention to succeed Mr. Miyazawa, told a rally Saturday: "We are facing an AIDS threat. In the United States the figure is about one case in several hundred people. It's still a fraction of that in Japan."

"They sell marijuana everywhere (in the United States). There are many drug addicts. That's why unpunished killings are many times that of Japan," Sunday's daily Yomiuri Shimbun quoted him as saying.

"Policemen just shoot before they themselves get killed. If it's in Japan, the policeman might get killed but the suspect will not," Yomiuri quoted Mr. Watanabe as saying.

"I didn't mean to insult the country, I just said what has been reported in newspapers and I don't think there is any problem," he said.

In 1988 Mr. Watanabe caused a flap by saying American blacks suffered no moral qualms over going bankrupt or into debt, unlike the principled Japanese people. He also offended China by saying Chinese still lived in caves.

Meanwhile, Japan's embattled prime minister said his ruling party, fighting an increasingly bitter campaign for next Sunday's general election, will form a government whether or not it regains a parliamentary majority.

"As long as we are the biggest party (in parliament), we should

form a government," Mr. Miyazawa said in an interview that appeared Sunday in the daily Asahi Shimbun.

Mr. Miyazawa said he would not resign as president of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) before the July 18 polls. Some party insiders had said he might quit after last week's Tokyo summit of the Group of Seven (G7) industrialised countries.

"I carry the leading flag and we are in a big battle," Mr. Miyazawa said. "If I quit now, it will have a bad effect on morale."

Rocked by mass defections, a series of damning funding scandals and a leadership crisis, the LDP, in power since 1955, is set to lose its majority in the crucial lower house of parliament.

However, many pundits predict that the LDP, thanks to a network of close-knit neighbourhood support groups in small towns and rural areas, will gain close to 230 seats in the 511-member house. Although short of a majority, that would take the party within striking distance of a coalition.

Despite Miyazawa's statement, it is unclear if the LDP can lure another party into forming a coalition. No other party leader has declared an intention to join forces with the LDP, citing its lack of willingness to carry out political reform.

LDP politicians continued their campaign against the LDP splinter parties. One of the parties, the Shinseitō (Japan Renewal Party) of LDP rebel and former Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata, has vowed to form a non-LDP coalition that will topple the LDP from power for the first time in 38 years.

9-year-old saves mother from drowning

IRVINE, California (AP) — A nine-year-old boy saved his mother's life by pulling her to shallow water when she began to drown in the family pool. "I was thinking — I have to save her or we won't have a mom anymore," said Eric Chang. "I don't feel like a hero. I just feel relieved."

Police Sgt. Dave Freedland said Eric and his 5-year-old sister Elaine were watching their mother in the pool. Jensen Chang, 36, who had not been swimming in recent years, drifted toward the deep end, where she had trouble keeping her head above water. Eric jumped in and pulled Mrs. Chang toward the step, where he held her up and tried to give her cardiopulmonary resuscitation, which he learned in school. Elaine called for help. Paramedics found Eric keeping his mother afloat. "These are very sharp kids," Sgt. Freedland said. "They saved their mom's life." "My mom told me it was like a nightmare," Eric said after visiting her in the hospital. "And she told me 'thank you for saving me.'"

Maradona announces film about his life

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Diego Maradona has announced that a film about his life in which he will reveal "the whole truth" about his drug use. In an interview late Friday with a local television station, Maradona said the film "will tell the whole truth about the time he was jailed for using drugs, who threw me to the lions, who threw me to the dogs, the truth that everybody is hiding. He did not say who would portray the 1986 World Cup most valuable player in the film. Maradona tested positive for cocaine after a March 17, 1991 Italian League match when he played for Napoli and was suspended for 15 months on April 6, 1991. Twenty days later, Maradona was arrested with two friends in a Buenos Aires apartment on drug possession charges. He was released on bail, and sentenced to undergo treatment for drug abuse under court supervision. He is still under treatment. The film, which is to go into production shortly, will be directed by his friend Fito Paez, a popular rock singer and songwriter who is now on tour in Chile. Maradona said "the film will probably create problems for me because it will tell about others who used and continue to use drugs. I'll tell the whole truth about me to the Argentines."

Tourist gets free tickets, free dinner, free lodging

SKOWHEGAN, Maine (AP) — A police siren screamed and lights flashed in the rear-view mirror. Ominous signs for a tourist. "I thought, 'what did I do wrong,'" said Maurice McArthur, passing through town with his wife, Jean. After they pulled over Thursday in downtown Skowhegan, they were confronted by police chief Larry Jones. A traffic stop, a ticket? But then they were joined by a throng of local officials, business people and reporters. The McArthurs, from Fredericton, New Brunswick, in Canada, were the first targets of an "arrest-a-tourist" promotion sponsored by the Skowhegan area Chamber of Commerce. They were treated to free lodging, dinner, theatre, gifts and an introduction to former U.S. Senator Margaret Chase Smith. "Oh, I think it's so exciting," said Mrs. McArthur as she was handed a bouquet of flowers.

Murderer's ex-wife rewarded for tipping off police

LONDON (R) — A British woman who tipped off police that a murderer they were seeking was her first husband has earned a reward of £175,000 (\$259,300) from a tabloid Sunday newspaper. The News Of The World said the reward was the biggest "in the history of newspapers." In February 1992 police used a television programme to broadcast the voice of a man who had kidnapped a woman estate agent and kept her imprisoned in a coffin-like box. Susan Oake immediately recognised the voice as that of her first husband Michael Sams. "I couldn't believe my ears. I expected to hear a stranger's voice," Ms. Oake told the News Of The World. "I remember shouting 'it's him, it's him. Oh God, it's him.' I just knew I had to ring the police. Loyalty doesn't come into it. My loyalty is to God and the truth. I couldn't have lived with myself if I hadn't rung." Sixteen hours later Sams, a 51-year-old tool repairer with one leg, was arrested. On Thursday he was sentenced to life in prison for kidnap, and the murder of a teenage prostitute. The reward matched the amount Sams had demanded, via tape recordings to the police, for the release of kidnapped estate agent Stephanie Slater.



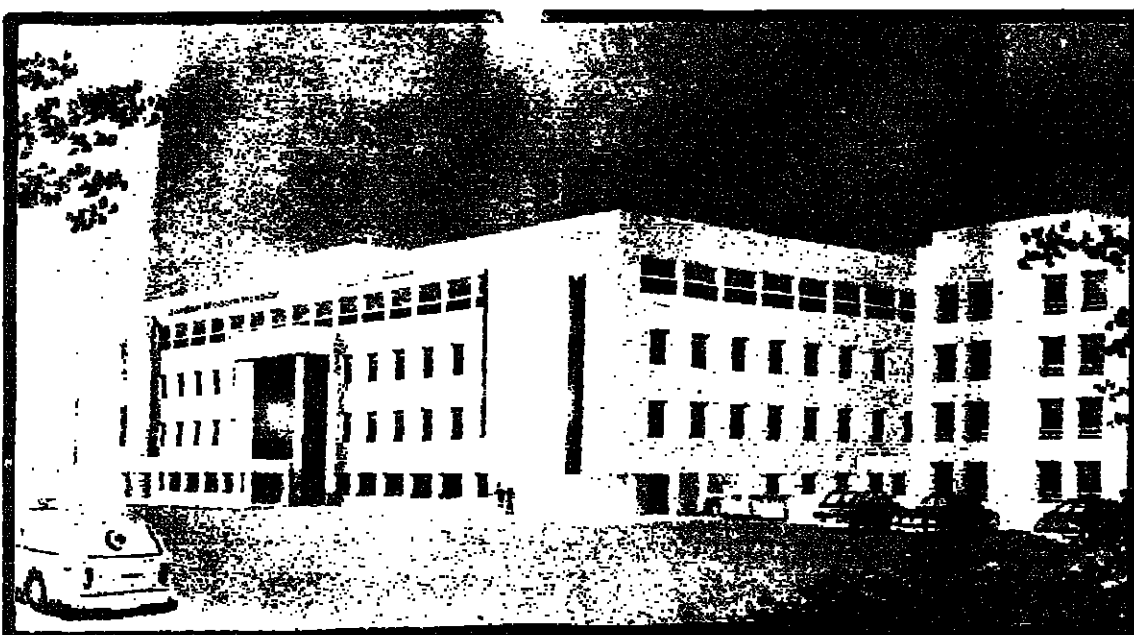
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Japan beats Germany in volleyball

KOBE, Japan (AP) — Japan fought it out for a narrow five-set victory over Germany in a Group A match at the 12-team World League men's volleyball tournament here Sunday. The Japanese spikers, who overwhelmed the same opponents 3-0 Saturday, needed a tough two hours 18 minutes before finally winning 3-2 (15-11, 9-15, 15-10, 10-15, 15-12) at the Kobe Sports Park Gymnasium. With the win, Japan evened their win-loss record at 8-8, while Germany stood with seven wins against nine defeats in the six-team preliminary competition. "The Germans were very different from yesterday. They played very well showing their power. I'm very happy with the results so far because I feel my players are really improving," said Japan's coach Seiji Oko. Meanwhile, Germany's head coach Igor Prielozny said: "We performed better in receiving and blocking. I thought we could beat Japan in the middle of the match, but I'm quite satisfied with my players' performance." Japan will take on front runners Russia in Moscow and Germany will play Barcelona Olympic champions Brazil in Sao Paulo next weekend.

Italy crowned world fencing champs

ESSEN, Germany (AFP) — Italy won the team world championship epee fencing title here, beating France 8-3. Their team has made up of Sandro Cuomo, Angelo Mazzoni, Paolo Milanola, Maurizio Randazzo and Stefano Pantano. Germany, the team Olympic champions at Barcelona, came third.

Marseille get good news at last

NARBONNE, France (AFP) — European Champions Marseille, at the centre of a huge bribery scandal that has rocked French football, put their troubles behind them here Saturday by beating Toulouse FC 1-0 in a pre-season friendly. The team stands accused of fixing a crucial victory against Valenciennes by paying bribe money to three opponents on their way to the French League title earlier this year. The scandal, however, did not stop 6,000 fans watching Saturday's game, settled by a goal by German international Rudi Voller in the 27th minute. New trainer Marc Bourrier said afterwards: "I insisted that the players should just concentrate on the ball, considering the events the club has been going through. The new season starts soon and Marseille must do itself justice when it defends its titles." If Marseille are found guilty of bribery, however, possible sanctions could include demotion to the second division.

Pichit keeps IBF flyweight title

NAKHON SAWAN, Thailand (AFP) — Reigning International Boxing Federation (IBF) flyweight champion Pichit Sitbangprachin of Thailand successfully retained his title here by a lightning victory over South Korea's Kyung Yul-Lee. The 27-year-old scored a first round technical knockout after only one minute and two seconds over No. 8 contender Kyung, 25, in a scheduled 12-round second title defence fight. Pichit landed a powerful left hook to the face dropping the Korean challenger for a mandatory eight-count after less than 30 seconds. He was knocked to the canvas again before the fight was stopped. Pichit improved his fight record to 19 wins including 13 knockouts. He became world champion on Nov. 29, last year with a third round knockout win over Rudolfo Blanco of Colombia.

Vasquez retains WBA crown

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentine Julio Cesar Vasquez, making his third defence of the World Boxing Association (WBA) junior middleweight crown, beat Venezuela's Alejandro Ugueto on

points. The champion, however, acknowledged that he had let down a partisan crowd at his stadium in San Miguel De Tucuman, a city 1,300 kilometres northwest of Buenos Aires. The left-handed Vasquez had chased after his older, shorter challenger during the 12 rounds trying unsuccessfully to land a knock-out punch. "People must be saying that the champ's gunpowder was wet, but I really could not connect any hard blows to his body. And he was a very tough opponent," the local fighter conceded in a television interview after the bout. Two judges ruled that the fight was 119-111 for the 26-year-old Argentine while the third scored it 118-111.

Robinson knocks out Murphy

CARDIFF, Wales (AP) — Steve Robinson retained his World Boxing Organisation (WBO) featherweight title with a ninth-round knockout of Britain's Sean Murphy. Robinson, fighting in his home town, used a patient series of combinations in the early rounds to wear his opponent down, setting up the only knock-down in the fight at the National Ice Rink. After drawing blood in Murphy's nose in the seventh, Robinson went flush to the face with a couple of jabs to start the ninth. Robinson finished Murphy off midway through the round with several combinations, finishing with a right. The referee counted Murphy out after the fighter rose on the count of nine.

Volkov wins Osaka indoor event

TOKYO (R) — Russian Alexander Volkov overcame a one-set deficit to beat top seed Petr Korda of Czech Republic 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 in the final of the \$250,000 Osaka International Indoor Tennis Tournament in western Japan Sunday. The 19th-ranked Russian, who reached three finals last year, found his game in the second set and stroled through to win the invitation event in 97 minutes. Korda, ranked ninth in the world, showed poor ground stroke play, committing 68 unforced errors along with nine aces. Volkov earned 40,000 while Korda took home 18,000 as runner-up. Amanda Coetzer of South Africa took the women's title by beating American Lisa Raymond 7-6 (7-1) 7-5. Coetzer pocketed \$20,000 and Raymond \$10,000.

Legia Warsaw stripped of title

WARSAW (R) — Polish soccer authorities stripped Legia Warsaw of the league title over a match-rigging scandal — a move which elevated third-placed Lech Poznan to the top of the table. The Polish Football Association (PZPN) voted to took Legia and second-placed LKS Lodz two points each for their part in the match-rigging on the final day of the season, when both teams won by runaway scores. This effectively handed the title to Lech, who originally finished the season two points behind Legia and LKS but had a better goal difference. The PZPN is expected to meet again in the next three days to decide whether Lech can be officially crowned champions and line up in next season's European Cup. "A vote was held at the PZPN meeting which decided to strip Legia Warsaw of the title of Polish champions," the Polish News Agency (PAP) said. "As a result of the decision, Lech Poznan were elevated to the top of the table," it said.

Mansell's helmet sells for \$10,000

LONDON (R) — A collector bought the helmet worn by British racing driver Nigel Mansell when he won the 1992 Formula One World Championship for £6,900 (\$10,000) on Saturday — nearly three times the expected price, auctioneers said. The buyer, who declined to give his name, bought the helmet at a Sotheby's auction. Sotheby's said it had expected the helmet, donated for auction to benefit charity, to sell for about 2,500 (\$3,700).

Agony and ecstasy for new Tour de France stars

VERDUN, France (R) — The agony and ecstasy of the Tour de France was reflected perfectly on the faces of two of the new stars of the world's greatest bike race Sunday.

In a day of contrasting fortunes, the agony was for Swiss rider Alex Zülle, who virtually lost his chance of overall victory in a fall, and the ecstasy was for 21-year-old Texan Lance Armstrong, brilliant winner of the eighth stage.

Armstrong, already labelled the next Greg Lemond, beamed with sheer delight as he out-sprinted five other riders who had shared a late breakaway to win the 184.5-km stage from Chalons-sur-Marne and taste his first moment of glory.

Zülle's expression was twisted in pain as he crossed the line

almost two minutes after the main peloton.

The 25-year-old Swiss, winner of this year's Paris-Nice race second in the Tour of Spain and seen as one of the favourites for overall victory, was knocked off his bike by a spectator at the summit of the Cote De Douaumont, 12 kilometres from the finish.

Zülle tumbled heavily, injuring his right arm, his ribs and his collar-bone and lay on the ground in agony for almost two minutes before he climbed painfully back on to his bike.

Three of his Spanish Once team rode with him to try to get him back into the race but the pace was too hot and Zülle ended losing vital ground on all his main rivals.

Though four doctors said no bones were broken, the cuts and bruises may cost him dear Monday in the first crucial stage of the race, a 59-kilometre individual time trial at the Lac De Madine.

Armstrong, who made the cycling world sit up and take notice when he came second in the Zurich World Cup Race last year only two weeks after turning professional, burst through an almost invisible gap on the right to win the sprint.

"It all came down to desire," he said afterwards. "Yesterday the team had three riders out of seven in the breakaway so we were sure we had the stage — but it didn't happen."

"Today I was the only Motorola rider in the break so I felt I had to win today. It was my desire. It means a lot to me. This is one of the greatest days of my life."

Britain's Johnny Herbert, in a Lotus, came fourth and was the

Kenyan stuns Bissett games with record breaking run

OSLO (Agencies) — Swiss promoter Res Bruegger, the man behind the new elite quartet of European athletics meetings, sat puffing a gigantic cigar with quiet satisfaction early Sunday.

Bruegger had watched Kenyan Yobes Ondieki destroyed the world 10,000 metres record at the Bissett Games in Oslo Saturday. Now he listened as Ondieki, 32, outlined a three-month plan to run the first sub 27 minute time for the distance.

Ondieki, the world 5,000 metres champion, blazed across the line in 26 minutes 38.38 seconds to win a kilo of gold and a place in the history books.

The Kenyan took an astonishing nine seconds off the previous record set by compatriot Richard Chelimo only last Monday at the Stockholm Grand Prix. It was just the sort of start Bruegger must have been hoping for to launch the Golden Four Series, which also includes meetings in Zurich, Berlin and Brussels.

The series appears set to transform further the face of athletics. Ten years ago, coincidentally the last time Ondieki ran a 10,000 metres, athletics became openly professional.

Since then it has changed out of

all recognition with athletes of Ondieki's calibre able to earn enough money to set them up for life.

Ondieki, who plans to defend his world 5,000 metres title in Stuttgart next month, can now substantially increase his wealth if the Golden Four Series is successful.

The budget for the Bissett Games alone increased from \$575,000 in 1992 to more than \$1,000,000 this year, mainly due to a television deal worth \$91,000,000 signed by the Golden Four promoters.

"From my point of view the future is that we will have in Europe up to 10 top events," Bruegger said.

"With the recession in Europe it's not possible for all organisers to have top fields therefore meets disappear."

Bruegger referred to the popularity of soccer and the growing attraction of basketball and added: "If we want to compete with all these sports, we have to have lots of new ideas."

For the first time in the sport, random blood tests were carried out on 12 athletes Saturday in addition to the usual urine tests for doping.

"If we have doping scandals as

we have had in the past I guarantee no sponsor would have any interest in track and field," Bruegger said. "We can't ask a company to invest in a sport which is not clean. If we don't win the war against doping then we will lose our sponsors."

Like most good dramas, Saturday night's 10,000 metres had a substantial sub-plot.

The Bissett Games 10,000 metres had long been billed as a race in which Moroccan Khalid Skah would attack the world record.

There is no love lost between Skah and the Kenyans after last year's Barcelona Olympics 10,000 final in which Skah was disqualified then reinstated for allegedly receiving assistance from a lapped team mate.

Chelimo was the victim in Barcelona, enjoying the status of Olympic champion for less than 24 hours before Skah was reinstated.

Last Monday Chelimo took revenge by beating the world 10,000 record and upstaging Skah's attempt.

Then world cross country champion William Siegel entered the 10,000 in Oslo and Skah responded by dropping to the 5,000.

"If I had been running the 10,000 I don't think there would have been a world record," Skah said.

"The Kenyans always have to run behind me. They like to run on my shoulder and beat me. "Some time during this summer I will be attempting to run 26 minutes 55 seconds."

Britain's 100m Olympic champion Linford Christie won the sprint thanks in part to the last minute withdrawal of new American champion Andre Casson, who fell ill after winning his heat.

Christie finished in a wind-assisted time of 10.09 seconds ahead of Olympic runner-up Frankie Fredericks of Namibia.

Christie's teammate Colin Jackson continued his fine reason over the hurdles by winning in a time of 13.21, but he was run close by Jack Pierce of the U.S. who finished fractionally behind.

The Americans were more dominating in the 400m sprint where Michael Johnson and Butch Reynolds did enough to restrict young British hope David Grindley to third place.

Sergei Bubka of Ukraine, the world pole-vault record holder, had one of his off-nights as he failed attempts at 5.65m and 5.70m.

Prost claims 50th Grand Prix win

SILVERSTONE, England (R) — Frenchman Alain Prost became the first driver to win 50 Formula One races Sunday when he stormed to victory in the British Grand Prix.

Prost, driving a Williams, finished 7.8 seconds clear of second-placed Michael Schumacher of Germany.

Schumacher, in a Benetton, came home ahead of his team mate, Italian Riccardo Patrese, who benefited from the last lap retirement of Ayrton Senna in a McLaren.

Prost's Williams team mate, Briton Damon Hill, suffered a cruel blow after leading for much of the race when he was forced to retire with what appeared to be engine failure.

Hill had just set the fastest lap of the race before he was sidelined, allowing Prost to snatch the lead after 42 laps of the 59-lap race.

Briton Johnny Herbert, in a Lotus, came fourth and was the

only other driver to finish the race on the same lap as the leading trio.

Senna ended up in fifth place after entering the last lap in third. Prost, a three-times world champion, won 20 points clear of Senna in the championship table with 67 points to the Brazilian's 47.

The race was a huge disappointment for Ferrari who were down the field on the starting grid and never featured in the scrap at the front.

Prost and Hill dominated the race with the Briton getting off to a good start and holding his lead comfortably until the Frenchman began to reel him in after fighting his own way past Senna in the sixth lap.

The safety car was introduced after 36 laps when Prost cut Hill's lead to less than two seconds but the Briton kept up the fast pace until he was forced to quit.

Senna's retirement was a second blow to the McLaren

team who lost team mate Michael Andretti of the United States when he went off the track at the first corner.

The all-British Ligier team also had a disappointing day. Martin Brundle was forced to retire after running four laps from the end and Mark Blundell spun out of contention on lap 51.

Meanwhile Formula One supremo Bernie Ecclestone launched an attack on IndyCar racing here Sunday as crowds plummeted for the British Grand Prix.

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SPOT THE ERRORS

East-West vulnerable. East deals.

NOBLE
♠ 10 5 4
♥ 9 4 3
♦ K 5
♣ K J 5 3 2

WEST EAST
♠ Q 7 2 ♠ K 9 8
♥ 7 8 ♥ 10 6
♦ 10 9 8 7 3 2 ♦ A Q J 6
♣ 7 6 4 ♣ A Q 9 8

SOUTH
♠ A J 6 3
♥ A K Q J 7 5 2
♦ 4
♣ 10

The bidding:
East South West North
1 NT 4♥ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠

Here's an exercise of your analytical powers. Study the bidding and play of this hand and decide who, if anyone, committed an error.

We can't fault the bidding. True, one no trump doubled would have produced an excellent score for North-South, but there was no way that was going to be the final contract. South's jump to four hearts was an eminently practical way to express the hand's playing potential.

West led the ten of diamonds to the king and ace. Declarer ruffed the diamond continuation, drew trumps in two rounds and ran the ten of clubs to East's queen. East shifted to the eight of spades, ducked by declarer to West's queen. As the cards lay that was the last trick for the defense, since declarer could enter dummy with a trump, finesse the jack of spades and claim the rest when the suit broke 3-3.

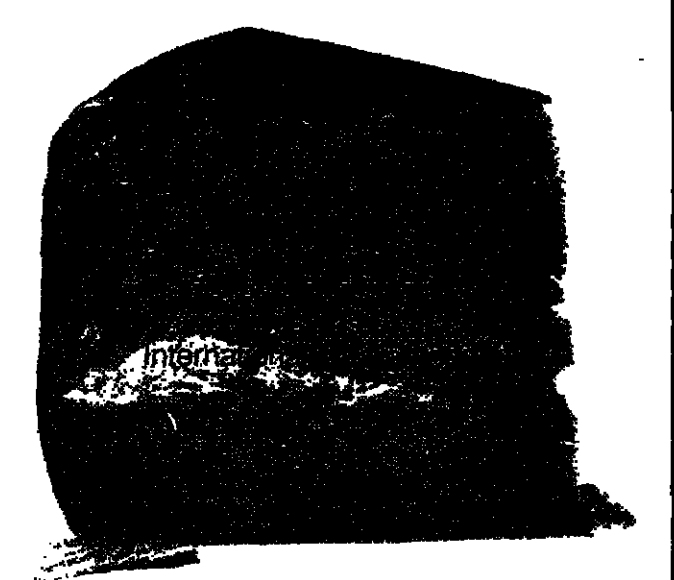
Yes, there was one critical error, but it is by no means easy to spot even looking at all four hands. Did you find it?

After winning the queen of clubs, East cannot afford to return a diamond because declarer will ruff while discarding a spade from the table; ace of clubs ruffed in the closed hand sets up dummy's suit while there's a trump entry; and we've seen that declarer can handle a spade return. But what about a low club?

Declarer can shift a spade while winning in dummy with the jack, but that's not enough! Declarer will still have to lose two spade tricks as long as East covers any spade led from dummy. Beautiful.

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	DELINQUENTS Shows: 3:00, 6:30, 10:30		STALLONE — IN Dolby Stereo		FAR AND AWAY Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 11:00		The Assassination of Hamshah by artist Saeed Biter Shows on Friday and Saturday, June 4 and 5 at 8:30 p.m. Please book seats in advance	AHLAN NABIL AND HISHAM THEATRE The theatre will be closed in preparation for "Ahlam Arab Summit" play which will be shown at the Jerash Festival for Culture and Arts.

Bosnian presidency to attend peace talk

Combined agency despatches

ZAGREB — Bosnia's Muslim-led leadership decided Sunday to resume peace talks with their enemies, but rejected a Serb-Croat plan to divide the state into three ethnic provinces.

After a six-hour closed-door meeting, the seven attending members of Bosnia's 10-man presidency also said they had agreed the formation of a new federal state, but gave no immediate details.

Bosnian Vice-President Ejup Ganic told reporters the Bosnian delegation would return to peace negotiations in Geneva in the next seven to 10 days.

The decision came a day after European Community (EC) negotiator Lord Owen and United Nations envoy Thorvald Stoltenberg told the presidency members assembled in Zagreb that it was in their interest to show up at the negotiating table.

The Bosnian leadership is resisting the partition plan because it is concerned that Serbs and Croats would take large sections of the country, leaving the Muslims only small, isolated pockets. They also fear that the Serb and Croat regions would join with Serbia and Croatia.

Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic said Friday that seven members of the presidency had endorsed a proposal for Bosnia to become a federation. Mirko Pejanovic, a Serb presidency member, said Mr. Izetbegovic was suggesting several provisions based on the principle of equality of all three ethnic groups.

"No single one (province) would be established on purely ethnic principles, because it's not possible in Bosnia," Pejanovic said in Zagreb.

He explained that the federation would have a "common foreign policy, citizenship, money and a common foundation for the economic and legal system."

"If our proposal does not get the political accord of the three nations in Bosnia-Herzegovina, we suggest an alternative U.N. protectorate," Mr. Pejanovic said.

In Sarajevo, Bosnia's capital,

U.N. spokesman Barry Frewer said a British journalist was shot dead during the night by a sniper while trying to cross the Sarajevo airport. His body was found on the runway Sunday morning, with a British passport and a U.N. press credential. The spokesman could not release the man's name or news organisation pending notification procedures.

Also in Sarajevo, Major Nicolas Studer, a Frenchman in charge of engineering for U.N. peacekeepers, said the city faced "slow death" unless water, electricity and natural gas service was restored.

He said Bosnia's government refuses to allow restoration of electricity because that would enable the Serbs to reopen major ammunition plant in Vogošća, just north of Sarajevo.

Morillon opposes split

Division of Bosnia-Herzegovina along ethnic lines would turn the war-torn republic into something akin to the Gaza Strip and could lead to prolonged conflicts, French General Philippe Morillon, the outgoing U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) commander in Bosnia, warned Sunday.

Gen. Morillon said any peace settlement for Bosnia-Herzegovina must respect the right of individuals to "stay in their ancestral home or go back there if they have been driven out by fear or violence."

Gen. Morillon, who was speaking to reporters the day before he is due to return to France, said it was "simplistic" to argue that Serbs, Croats and Muslims could be separated easily.

"Such a simplistic notion would lead to something akin to the situation in the Gaza Strip, and would only give rise to prolonged conflicts," Gen. Morillon said referring to the Israeli-occupied territory.

The U.N. high commissioner for refugees said the humanitarian operation in Bosnia is running out of money and called a conference next week to discuss the huge humanitarian problems in the region.

Victims of accident are buried; Princess Sarvath visits injured

AMMAN (Petra) — Nine Jordanians who were killed in a bus crash in Yemen Friday were buried in Amman Sunday as Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath visited the Royal Medical Centre to inquire about the conditions of those injured in the accident.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, delegated several ministers to attend the funerals of those killed and console their families.

The Prince delegated Minister of Industry and Trade Basam Al Saket to attend the funeral of Othman Al Sharaa Al Abbadi, councillor at Jordan's embassy in Sanaa, his wife Nikmat Outeishat, their children Firas, Ahmad, Samar and Sahar.

The Regent delegated

Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Waleed Asfour to attend the funeral of Sakhr Al Zaben and offer condolences to his family. Sakhr was the son of Jordan's Military Attaché in Sanaa Fayyad Al Zaben, who was injured in the accident.

Prince Hassan delegated Minister of Public Works and Housing Khalaf Al Hawari to attend the funeral of Zein Al Majali, the wife of the Jordanian Health Attaché Suleiman Al Fayez, and daughter Lujin.

Meanwhile, Princess Basma visited the Jordanian and Iraqi nationals injured in the tragic incident, which took place when the bus carrying them overturned on the Sanaa-Hejiah highway, 115 kilometres from Sanaa.

Princess Sarvath, who was briefed on the health conditions of the injured, conveyed to them the greetings of Prince Hassan and his wishes for them of speedy recovery.

The injured and their families thanked Princess Sarvath for her gesture and implored God to protect His Majesty King Hussein and Prince Hassan. They thanked the Royal family for the excellent medical treatment at the centre.

Those killed and injured in the accident were brought to Jordan Saturday aboard a military aircraft.

Health Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas also inspected the conditions of the injured.

The minister was accompanied on the visit by Al Hussein Medical Centre Director Major General Abdullah Hiyari.

Mubarak virtually assured of new term

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt was virtually guaranteed a third six-year term in office Sunday after 441 of the 454 members of the lower house of parliament signed a petition supporting him.

The People's Assembly is due to meet on July 21 to nominate a single candidate for president, who will then be put to the people for approval in a referendum in October.

Mr. Mubarak needs the votes of two thirds of the total 303 deputies — to win nomination, and a simple majority of votes cast in the referendum to be elected.

Only one other person had offered himself as a candidate, a little-known Alexandria businessman who officials said never had a chance. Five others were reported voicing interest, but none of them has confirmed their candidacy.

The speaker of the People's Assembly, Fathi Sorour, told a news conference Sunday that the petition declared: "We are honoured to nominate President Mubarak for a new term based on our belief that the interests of Egypt require the continuation of the leader in the post of presidency."

The petition said the deputies were backing Mr. Mubarak "in response to the people's will, out of esteem for his huge achievements in all kinds of national work and in appreciation for his role as the great leader who laid the foundations of democracy and led the economic reform march."

Asked why there were no other candidates, Mr. Sorour said: "The constitution says that parliament chooses the presidential candidate and we chose only President Mubarak."

"Those who express their intentions to run by making speeches are not considered candidates," he said in an apparent reference to Alexandria businessman Kamal Ahmad.

Mr. Sorour said five members of the one opposition party in the assembly, the leftist Union Progressive Party (UPP), and five independents had refused to support Mr. Mubarak's candidacy. Three seats were vacant because members had died.

The government-controlled Akhbar Al Yom newspaper reported Saturday that Mr. Mubarak would hold a series of public meetings to explain Egypt's internal and external policies to the people before the referendum.

Major opposition groups boycotted the 1990 general elections because they did not accept the electoral code, thus shrinking the number of opposition inside the parliament.

(Continued from page 1)

harassment. It's nothing new," said U.N. military spokesman after gunmen lobbed two mortar shells into the world body's Mogadishu base on Friday night, injuring four Norwegians.

In the latest attack, gunmen Saturday got within 300 metres of the heavily-guarded U.N. port and shot and wounded three French soldiers on a vessel being unloaded.

Two hours earlier gunmen using a warren of derelict houses which overlooks the port managed to fire at least two rounds at another group of French troops. They missed. U.N. troops briefly searched the area without success.

Several relief organisations say they now are having a tough time finding U.N. volunteers to escort their convoys.

Zulu leaders insist their homeland must be retained

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Zulu leaders told thousands of supporters Sunday they would oppose elections in South Africa unless they were guaranteed the Zulu homeland would be preserved.

Black and white negotiators have set April 27 as the date for the nation's first elections including the black majority, which would formally end apartheid.

Zulu groups at the talks opposed setting the date until negotiators decided the form of government to be elected. They want partly autonomous federal states, including a Zulu homeland, free of domination by the central government.

The African National Congress (ANC), the nation's leading black group, considered the likely winner of the first election, seeks a strong central government with the power to redress the inequities of apartheid.

Mangosuthu Buthelezi, chief minister of the KwaZulu homeland and head of the Zulu-dominated Inkatha Freedom Party, accused the ANC and the White government of seeking to eliminate KwaZulu in a post-apartheid system.

"It is because there is power in KwaZulu that such a concerted effort has been made to annihilate it," Chief Buthelezi told more than 20,000 Zulus, many dressed in traditional skins and carrying clubs and shields, at a Durban sports stadium.

King Goodwill Zwelithini, the ceremonial Zulu leader who called the "imbizo" or traditional gathering, said: "We will not negotiate ourselves out of existence."

Alleged \$20m payoff to Libya surfaces in Italian probe

ROME (AP) — A former official of Italy's state energy company has told Milan prosecutors he was asked to arrange a \$20 million payoff in the 1970s to Libya so the Italian oil company could avoid nationalisation under Muammar Qadhafi's regime.

Several Italian newspapers Sunday ran stories about the allegation made in testimony given to the prosecutors, who spearheaded a year of nationwide scandal probes that have implicated hundreds of politicians and businessmen, including top officials from Italy's sprawling state industrial sector.

Among the state conglomerates under scrutiny is ENI, the national energy giant which includes Agip, Italy's state oil company.

La Repubblica and Corriere Della Sera, two nationwide dailies, quoted Renato Marnetto, who in the 1970s directed ENI's financial affairs, as telling investigators that he was asked to look into arranging a deal with Libya, which then was nationalising foreign companies as Libya moved to put its oil wealth under its own control.

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Marnetto testified that ENI officials told him that to make sure only 50 per cent of Agip would be nationalised a \$20 million payoff had to be made to Colonel Qadhafi's deputy, Abdul Salam Jalloud. Mr. Marnetto allegedly told magistrates that he did not know whether the payoff was actually made since he quit handling the arrangements at a certain point but that in the end, Agip was only 50 per cent nationalised.

But he claimed Umberto Ortolani, a financier linked to Italy's now outlawed secret P-2 lodge, told him he could solve the Libyan problem but at a price — \$2 million for himself.

Mr. Marnetto said ENI rebuffed the purported proposal for a cut by Mr. Ortolani.

Activity by P-2 members has come under renewed scrutiny in recent days after a Calabrian prosecutor, Agostino Cordova, said Friday that his probe into suspected links between organised crime and secret lodges, turned up evidence that 19 parliamentarians were formerly members of P-2.

ence.

"We will never allow anyone to tear up and discard that which we have put together over the centuries," he said.

About seven million of South Africa's more than 30 million blacks are Zulu, but the number that supports Chief Buthelezi's position is unclear.

The ANC accuses Chief Buthelezi of blocking free political activity in KwaZulu, where warfare between the two groups has killed thousands of blacks since the mid 1980s.

Political fighting spread to the Johannesburg area in 1990, a fresh surge erupted last week after the election date was set.

Police said Sunday they recovered six more bodies from Tokoz and Katsheko, raising the death toll in the two black townships south of Johannesburg to about 100 in the past week.

Most of the violence is part of the ANC-Inkatha feud, though revenge attacks and crime-related killings also play a role.

Chief Buthelezi and ANC leader Nelson Mandela held a much-publicised summit last month — their first in two years — but the meeting has failed to halt the carnage.

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Gonzalez faces prospect of minority government

MADRID (Agencies) — Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez faces the prospect of ruling with a minority government for the first time in more than a decade in power.

The Basque Nationalist Party (PNV), which appeared ready to accept the role of junior partner to Mr. Gonzalez's Socialists in a ruling coalition, this weekend said "thanks but no thanks" to the prime minister's office.

With just three days left before King Juan Carlos formally opens the parliamentary session, Mr. Gonzalez, huddled with advisers Sunday with an eye towards making his final ministerial choices, the private Europa Press reported.

The Socialists won 159 seats in the 350-seat lower house of parliament in the June 6 general elections, 17 short of a majority.

The Catalan Convergencia i Unio (CIU) party last month also rejected the Socialist's overtures, leaving Mr. Gonzalez to face a continual, gruelling round of policy-by-policy negotiations to get his programme through parliament.

The Spanish prime minister was spending Sunday in his Madrid Moncloa Palace holding final consultations before announcing his cabinet, political sources said.

He is expected to name the new government ahead of Wednesday's ceremonial opening of parliament, and is believed to have included independents among his ministers.

Facing a stalled economy with unemployment soaring to over 20 per cent, Mr. Gonzalez has made it clear he hoped for a broad, consensus government to help confront the crisis.

At last week's two-day investiture debate the 51-year-old prime minister pledged to make his fourth consecutive term in office one of compromise and dialogue, with job creation and measures to tackle the recession his party's top priorities.

"I hope to achieve a stable government, but we'll see it won't be easy," he said.

Ramon Jauregui, leader of the Socialists in the Basque country, said this goal had been made even difficult in the wake of the PNV decision.

"Their 'no' has made the search for parliamentary deals on our most important pieces of legislation much more complex and laboured," he said.

Although Basque nationalist support would still have left Mr. Gonzalez in charge of a minority government, political analysts said he hoped their backing would have made it easier to reach agreements with the Catalan nationalists.

However, PNV leader Xabier Arzallus did not rule out the possibility of voting with the PSOE in future, and said the decision to reject the coalition offer was not a failure: "It just opens up other avenues of collaboration," he said.

Both the PNV and CIU in the investiture debate, enabling him to win a key vote of confidence.

Mr. Arzallus said the PNV had not entirely closed the door on forming a coalition with the Socialists, saying there might be further room for manoeuvre after the 1994 budget debate at the end of this year, or when the PSOE had held their congress — not due until January.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Call for mutiny spreads among Niger military

NIAMEY (AFP) — Soldiers in the southwestern town of Tahoua joined soldiers in the central town of Zinder by calling for a mutiny unless their demands for overdue wages were satisfied within 48 hours, national radio said Sunday. On Saturday soldiers in Zinder staged a 12-hour mutiny taking control of the town and its airport before returning to their barracks. The soldiers, who are demanding to be paid three months in overdue wages and are pressing for the cancellation of budget cuts made by the Niger government last month, said they would resume their mutiny within 48 hours unless their demands were met.

Liberia mediators hope to break deadlock

GENEVA (R) — U.N. and regional mediators trying to broker a ceasefire accord between Liberia's warring factions hope to resume aid convoys this week to areas held by powerful rebels, a U.N. spokeswoman said Sunday. But she denied the United Nations was linking the resumption of humanitarian aid to areas run by the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) with progress in Geneva ceasefire talks. The week-long talks between Liberia's three main armed factions — the NPFL, the United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO) and the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) — and the interim government of national unity began Saturday.

Accord reached on date for Togo election

OUAGADOUGOU (AFP) — The government of Togo and the opposition signed an agreement here Sunday laying down Aug. 25 as the date for a presidential election. The accord, the first step towards normalisation of the political situation in Togo after a two-year-long crisis, also laid down conditions for organising the election and security measures to be taken during the electoral process. The signing ceremony took place in public.

Fire guts migrants' camp in Italy

VILLA LITERNO (R) — A fire destroyed 22 caravans intended for African migrants in southern Italy and police Sunday said they were treating the blaze as arson. No one was injured in Saturday night's attack, which spread through the Caravan park on the outskirts of the coastal town of Villa Literno, 30 (kilometres) north of Naples. The caravans, which were empty, had been provided by the Catholic charity Caritas and other Italian groups as a planned reception centre for several hundred migrants. Paramilitary Carabinieri police said traces of petrol had been found at the scene, pointing to arson.

Gulf EC to hold fresh talks on oil tax

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Gulf Arab states and the European Community (EC) will meet again in Brussels next week to discuss a controversial energy tax proposed by the E.C. to help protect the environment. Gulf officials said Sunday. The July 16 meetings were recommended by the foreign ministers of the two groups when they discussed the carbon tax in May and agreed to pursue talks through their experts to reach a compromise.

75 ill after drinking contaminated water in UAE

DUBAI (AP) — Health and water boards were trying Sunday to determine what caused more than 75 people to take ill, apparently from contaminated drinking water. The victims, mainly women and children, were from the Al Qoz neighbourhood of Dubai. Most complained of abdominal pains, diarrhoea and vomiting, doctors at Al Rashid Hospital said. They said patients began arriving Friday afternoon and that all were treated and released. Hassan Mahboub, acting director of the public health department, said that "the only common factor seen at this point is the fact that they all drank from the same source of water." Residents of Al Qoz were advised not to use local water supplies until further notice.

Lebanese customs seize fake dollar bills

BEIRUT (R) — Customs officers at Beirut airport arrested two Lebanese men carrying 922 counterfeit \$100 bills on Sunday shortly before they were to board a flight to Russia, customs officials said. Lebanon is notorious for the production and trafficking of counterfeit dollar bank notes.

Rebel Kurds kill 4 villagers in Turkey

ISTANBUL (R) — Separatist Kurdish guerrillas killed four villagers in a night raid in eastern Turkey, the semi-official Anatolian news agency reported Sunday. The Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) guerrillas opened fire on several houses in Bekmez village near the town of Agri, killing two men and two women and wounding a fifth person. PKK rebels massacred 32 civilians and burned down houses in the eastern village of Basbaglar Monday. Since then, 20 PKK guerrillas, 11 members of the security forces and five civilians have been killed in various incidents. The PKK's nine-year-old separatist campaign in southeast Turkey has cost more than 6,300 lives.

Hillary wins the hearts of S. Koreans

SEOUL (R) — South Koreans gave first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton rave reviews Sunday. Some made the point that a woman's place generally should be in the home. "But Hillary is great. She may not be what we think a first lady should be, but she's great," said one woman. She was among more than 100 South Koreans who braved driving rain at the U.S. army base in Seoul to catch a glimpse of Mrs. Clinton Sunday, the second and final day of the U.S. presidential visit to South Korea. "Wow, I met her. And look, I have her signature," a delighted young girl said as she jumped up and down with excitement. Mrs. Clinton, dressed in a white and blue suit, smiled and shook hands with the crowd as she made her way to a restaurant for a quick brunch, with families of American soldiers and South Korean employees at the Yongsan Army Base. "It's exciting to meet her. She gives us women hope and courage in this world where sex discrimination still exists," said Jennifer Kim, a guest at the brunch. "I don't think it's bad for a first lady to be strong and clever like her," said Kim, who was accompanied by her husband and two sons. "I wish our first lady was more like her," said a young South Korean woman.

Clinton, Kim go for a jog

SEOUL (AFP) — After days of fancy diplomatic footwork, the jogging fanatic presidents of the United States and South Korea still didn't get their early-morning run right Sunday. Bill Clinton, after being told that Kim Young-Sam always wore a track suit, promptly donned one. The 65-year-old Kim, however, after hearing that Clinton ran without a track suit, left his at home. "I can see why you wear it," officials quoted the sweating Clinton as saying. And, whether or not it was prompted by the confusion, Mr. Kim suggested after the 15 minute 20 second run that a hot line between their offices would not be a bad idea. Mr. Clinton agreed. The joint run was billed here as "jogging for democracy." It grabbed as many headlines in South Korean newspapers as a possible imminent nuclear threat from North Korea. At the end of it, Mr. Clinton plunged into the presidential pool before sharing a Western breakfast with Mr. Kim, the pro-democracy dissident turned president. Mr. Kim presented Mr. Clinton with a jewelry box for Hillary and a calligraphy scroll he had penned himself. "Deal with difficulties openly and squarely and you can tide over hardship," the scroll read. And Mr. Clinton gave Mr. Kim two pairs of jogging shoes, one for first lady Sohn Myong-Soon, and two sweat jackets.

Mother Teresa leaves hospital

NEW DELHI (AP) — Nobel Prize winner Mother Teresa was discharged from the hospital Sunday after doctors found her in fair condition, a news agency reported. The 83-year-old nun, being treated for exhaustion since late Friday at the Nanavati Hospital in Bombay where she had stopped on her way to the southern town of Bangalore. She will now return to Calcutta, the eastern Indian metropolis where her Missionaries of Charity is based. Despite her age and frail health, Mother Teresa travels frequently in her work with the poor. Mother Teresa, who won the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize, has suffered two heart attacks, the last one in 1989 when she received a pacemaker.

Holidaying Pope in fine health

LORENZAGO DI CADORE, Italy (R) — Pope John Paul, at the centre of a health scare when he was admitted to hospital last week, is in fine fettle, his official spokesman said. "There is no difference (in his health) from two years ago," papal spokesman Joaquín Navarro-Valls said. "Last year we came straight after he had surgery but now we are back to the normal rhythm," he added. The 73-year-old Pontiff underwent medical tests eight days ago, a year after major surgery to remove a large benign tumour from his colon. Doctors gave him a clean bill of health and the Vatican stressed the tests were strictly routine but the episode raised fresh fears over the health of the head of the world's 960 million Roman Catholics.